ネコ光一
Illustration
Nardack
1
ワールド
異世界式教育エージェント
ティーチャー
OVERLAP

World Teacher

– Other World Style Education & Agent –

– Volume 1 –

Birth

Author:

NEKO Kouichi

Artist:

Nardack

Translated by:

[Defiring | Omega Harem Translations]

Synopsis:

A man who was once called the world's strongest agent ended up becoming a teacher after his retirement, to train a new generation of agents. After many years of training his disciples, he was killed at the age of 60 by a secret organization's ruse and was reincarnated in another world with his memories intact.

Though he was surprised by the existence of magic and the strange species in that world, he quickly adapted to his condition as a newborn and took advantage of it. He acquired special magic and gained a massive amount of strength thanks to his rigorous discipline, in order to reach his goal: Resume his career as a teacher which he left halfway through in his previous life.

This is the story of a man, who, based on the memories and the experiences of his previous life, became a teacher who travels through the world with his students.

Prologue

"--... ...ga--...--swer.....Answer!"

In a certain country, said to shoulder the center of the continent, in the president's suite of a multistory central building.

A room that normally contains marble floors and expensive ornaments, now looks like the scene of a disaster.

Floors and walls broken by explosions and gunfire, ornaments that are only junk now.

And the countless scattered ---- dead bodies.

Blood is flowing from all the bodies, no matter how anyone looks their survival is hopeless.

No, there is only one moving figure.

A lone man wearing a full-body protective suit.

The man tries to rise from lying face down, but falls back down unable to support his body.

Giving up standing, the man crawls forward, and rests his back against a nearby wall pausing for breath.

And in his ear, presses a switch on earphone type communication device.

"...Yeah, here.....code axel."

"Are you okay!? Report the situation!"

In the midst of countless bodies, there is one wearing clearly higher class clothes.

Not only its forehead, but its whole body is covered in bullet wounds, and has been somewhat destroyed by an explosion; this corpse--the building's owner--was the man's target.

"The target is... taken care of. All that's left--*cough*, cleaning up.... right?"

"Wait! That's the last measure. Hurry and escape!"

"Ha, haha.... that's impossible."

The man looks at his body.

Multiple gunshots in abdomen, left leg missing from knee downwards.

No feeling in the left hand, a body that even speaking is painful with, he utterly embodied the meaning of mortally wounded.

With only his right hand moving, he takes out a small terminal from his pocket, and releases its safety device.

It's a control device for explosives.

Precisely calculated, countless explosives, this will reliably collapse the building if activated.

Involving the unmoving man laying here.

"Don't give up! Pick up will come soon! Oi, prepare the helicopter! Permission? We'll deal with that later!"

The other side of the transmission becomes noisy.

It looks like the man's partner is desperately giving orders, but there's no more time left.

As the man opens his mouth to tell him to stop, there is a sound of a door opening from the transmission.

“““Teacher----!!”””

It was the man’s apprentices.

Between the hurried noises, he hears five boys and girls from the microphone, he hears the shouts of his students.

“Teacher, please don’t give up!”

“We’ll come and get you, please wait!”

“There’s still many things we want to be taught!”

“Promised….didn’t you?”

“Teacher! Teacher…fa, fa…ther! Father!”

Even though he told them before the mission there was a possibility this could happen, it looks like his students couldn’t bear it.

Their still inexperienced spirits worry him, but their affection makes him feel happy.

Mustering his strength, the man gives an order.

"Form a line!"

“““!? Yes!”””

The fruits of training, the flustered students answer without any disorder.

"What I want to say….you know… right?"

“““Don’t stop walking forward!”””

"That’s… good… You guys….will be fine. Have confidence and… live."

“““……Yes!”””

It seems the students are desperately holding back tears, but their voices are tearful no matter how you listen, they are probably shedding a flood of tears by now.

"Fu….. sorry, for my students."

“N-, no problem. It’s their right.”

"Is that so."

“Is it… already impossible?”

"That it would come to this….you knew… right?"

“……Yeah”

Troubled, that conflicted voice finally leaked out.

"I’ve…..left….something. I can go….with a smile"

“……Leave the rest to me”

"I leave it to you. With you….being together…was……fun."

“That’s my line.”

The man has lost too much blood, his eyes can’t see and his mind is becoming faint.

Even with the result being this, the plan was a success.

I’ve entrusted them with everything I have.

Only this last job is left.

With his remaining strength the man pressed the switch.

Countless explosions reverberated throughout the building.

They gradually became louder, and finally reached the man's floor.

The man accepted the feeling of the falling rubble with his body.

And then the man…

Chapter 1

Fastest Training Plan

Part 1

Even if I say it myself, my life was full of ups and downs.

The torture in the name of training, being taken to warzones with the feeling of going for a stroll.

During those stormy days I became the Japan Alliance's 37th special worker... a so called agent.

There I met my partner, I continued to fight with him beside me.

Doing nothing but fighting, after I became 55 years old, I retired and started training the next generation.

Teaching was difficult, but I think the days I spent there were fun.

During those happy days, a certain dark organization continued maneuverings that would upset the balance of the world.

The personnel to combat this dark organization were carefully selected.

And... I was chosen.

For a time I had enough skill to make my name famous throughout the world, trust came with results.

In reality, even if a retired old man would die by chance the fallout would be minimal... that was probably along the lines of the risk calculation in their decision making process.

No matter you look at it, it’s a conspiracy... That was how my partner objected, but I accepted that.

If I succeed in eliminating the target, my partner's top position in the Japan Alliance was assured.

With a blood contract, I made preparations to challenge the operation.

The result... I died.

Although I didn't talk about it at length, I want you to understand that I spent my life far from that of an ordinary person. Even though I put on years, I don't lose my composure and can brag that I have an iron heart.

But... I was disgracefully confused.

"Au--, auaua--!"

Why have I become a baby!

Even If I wanted to yell that, this body’s vocal cords haven’t developed, I can’t form words. These surprisingly tiny hands and feet, even though it’s my own body it won’t move like I want to. Even though it’s absurd situation, I somehow clearly understand that I’ve become a baby.

Even if it's me, who lived with optimism in my previous life, this situation is impossible to pardon.

As I lost my composure in confusion, a shadow rose over my face.

"---.....--....-"

A woman is looking at me and talking.

But, my undeveloped ears can’t pick up the words, I don’t even know what she’s saying.

Calm down, let’s try putting the circumstances in order. The change is fast, I need to calm down. To calm down, I think back.

During my last mission, I dealt with the target but was fatally wounded. Escape was hopeless, I chose to destroy the building and myself to remove the evidence. I even remember the feeling of getting hit by the falling debris. After that, I blacked out.

When I woke up I was a baby.

…Um, I calmed down but still don’t get it. I certainly died but, somehow became a baby. [Reincarnation] fits the logic but, why do I remember myself?

And even though I remember the life I lived, I can’t remember the names of my partner or my disciplines. I have a memory with pinpoint holes in it, and am in a situation with a body that I can't get any information with. No matter how much I think, there's no answer, and there's also no one to tell me.

I cut down on meaningless thoughts, and for the moment observed the person in front of my eyes.

A woman with blond hair tied behind her head, her eyes are sky blue.

There are some wrinkles on her face, so she’s probably passed the marrying age but even without complimenting she's plenty beautiful. If I wasn’t a baby, I might try to seduce her.

But, why is she wearing a maid uniform? Cosplay? No, looking at her appearance this might be a foreign country? While I was thinking idly she gently picked me up in her arms, and started humming something like a lullaby. I don’t understand the content or the words. But, her gaze is filled with affection, the restful rhythm pushes my awareness away.

There are many things I have to think about but, unable to go against the pleasant sensation I let go of my consciousness.

Part 2

One month has passed since I woke up.

The world I currently know is only this room.

Approximately six tatami size, the room only contains the low bed I am sleeping on, a desk, and a closet. This room, without even books, really fits the word dreary. The bed's material is rough to the touch, there's a rustic feeling to it.

Well then, it's been a month of only sleeping and eating but, my body is growing well.

My ears no longer hear sounds like broken speaker, it's not enough to walk, but I can move my body somewhat. However in response to that my fuel consumption has become unusually bad. In other words I'm hungry.

Usually, the food comes with a best timing like I'm being monitored but, today it's late. I should think of a plan for this… …when I was starting to think of ways to deal with it, the door opened.

The blonde maid taking care of me enters. As such, it's been a one month already and I haven't seen anyone else, except the maid.

"---…------"

Um, as usual I have no idea what she's saying. My ears indeed hear now, but I have absolutely no idea about the language. In my previous life I traveled all around the world so my study of languages is proficient but, the language here is nothing like I've heard before.

But it's not a large problem. By continuing to listen I'll pick it up at some point, now I should give priority to eating.

"--? ------"

Oh, today it’s not only the blonde maid but there’s another person too.

Let’s see, what kind of a person-...? ...What?

"--, ---, ---"

The blonde maid gave an order to the other and left the room.

No no wait a moment. That woman closing in with her whole face smiling, who is that? She’s wearing a maid uniform so she probably came to take care of me, but there’s a point I want to retort to.

Why does she have cat ears, this girl.

She seems lively, her age is probably between a girl and a woman. Red hair in a ponytail, quite cute. But, those cat ears on her head concern me. It’s not like I love cat ears, but my foremost thought was of a cosplay cafe. That's what I thought, but no matter how you look those ears are moving. And even cutely with a 'pikopiko'.

"--, ---?"

Beside the surprised me, the girl holds out a spoon with food. There’s no baby bottle so I’m being fed with a spoon like this.

The question remains, but I’m hungry so I eat. The milk-like meal with something mixed in it isn’t that delicious though.

"--! ----"

She fidgets happily when I eat.

It’s a bit irritating, but for now I'll concentrate on eating.

The meal is over, but the cat ear girl is smiling and gazing at me without tiring. Are you that, the type that only has eyes for cute things? I don’t have a mirror so I don’t even know

if my appearance is cute or not. Leaving aside my appearance, my stomach is full too so let's remove one question.

Precisely, are those cat ears real?

I point at the cat ears and try to appeal to let me touch them. No, not grabbing my finger, those ears. After thinking for some time the cat eared girl lowered her head and let me touch them. Un, they're warm. I tried investigating until their root but, they're properly growing from her head. This is the real thing.

"--! --, ------, --..."

Like being immersed in a feeling too strong for words, cat eared girl claps her hands like she's thought of something. Closing her eyes, rising her index finger she murmurs something.

"---!"

At the last moment as she let out her voice with spirit, and suddenly fire appeared at the tip of her finger.

...Eh, fire? There's no lighter or anything like that though, where's the fire coming from? Ah is that so, a sleight of hand trick? But fire's, not something that floats in midair in a sphere like that.

"---♪"

While I'm being confused, the cat ear girl is happily rotating her finger.

In answer to that the fire sphere is doing impossible movements, and flying about the girl. I can't see anything that's the cause.

"--!"

"-!?"

At the same time as I concluded this, the blonde maid came back.

Noticing this the cat eared girl's movements stopped, and the fire sphere disappeared with that. The blonde maid beckoned the cat eared girl with her hand without a word. A scary smile saying come here. Heading there the cat eared girl's ears and tail drooped down downheartedly giving a healing feeling.

Cat ears and a tail that normal people don't have, and magic exists.

In my previous life this did not exist anywhere in the whole world.

Thinking again, I should docilely accept reality.

This is… not Earth.

Is this [magic] … …maybe?

Part 3

It’s been three months since I woke up.

My neck is steady, it became possible to move by crawling around.

When the two maids aren’t watching I escape from the bed’s fence, and spend my time concentrating on gathering information from the surroundings.

Moving around like that, my understanding of the current situation deepened. I confirmed this is not Earth, because there’s magic it would be good to call it [another world] .

To think that, [another world reincarnation] that an otaku coworker of mine talked about would happen to me. It may have already ended once for me, but life’s really mysterious.

Regarding the culture here, this would be closest to medieval Europe back on Earth. Light is mostly candles, there’s absolutely no electricity so that seems inconvenient, but magic exists in it’s place.

I’d like to move to new discoveries but, it’s almost meal time.

Let’s return to the room before maid comes. Today is probably the cat eared girl’s turn.

"Here, it’s time for a meal. I’ll feed you a lot. Say aah~"

That’s right, I finally understand the unknown language. It’s probably also because of a baby’s learning ability, but mostly because of the cat eared girl. This girl is oddly talkative and speaks even irritatingly much. Being in the middle of a country’s language makes acquiring it fast. By understanding the language I also learned my name.

Sirius… that is my new name.

The situations is unknown, but this is how I got my new name.

My previous name has disappeared, but as long as I have my self consciousness I'll properly live as Sirius. I might be saying a cool line, but I'm currently being fed so it doesn't fit.

"Have you finished eating?"

The blonde maid, revised to Elena-san came to look at the situation. There's absolutely no break in her appearance today either so she gives an expert maid's appearance. She might be younger than I in my previous life, but it's my style to give respect to a pro.

"Ah, yes. At any rate Sirius-sama really eats tidily. I'd heard it was harder to feed a baby?"

"It might be like that for a normal child, Sirius-sama is special. He will surely become a great person in future."

She is a expert maid, and a somewhat a doting parent.

I thought that Elena-san was certainly my parent, but listening to the conversation that seems wrong. Speech is like that towards a superior, rather an attendant than a maid. Because of that a doting parent might seem an odd expression, but the way she looks is completely like that of a parent. Thinking of my age, rather than doting servant a doting parent fits better.

"That's right. It almost like he understands my words. Ah, at any rate he really is cute."

The cat eared girl whose engrossed with me is named Noel-san.

She's studying being a maid beside Elena-san, but hasn't left her childishness behind yet.

"I wonder when he'll call me Onee-chan? No, Onee-sama is also hard to give up."

Yeah, this girl can be addressed without honorifics.

"The meal is over. Next I'll ask you to clean."

"Understood!"

Leaving behind Noel-san who answered with energy, Elena-san left the room while carrying and holding me gently. Heading towards the entryway, like that it became the first time since I was born that I went outside.

"Today is warm. Let's take a small stroll outside."

"Yee-"

"Yes, leave it to me."

Elena-san takes me, and slowly walks around the house's surroundings.

The house is a fine two-story building made out of wood. There are six rooms, it's probably larger than average house. I'm being called with [-sama] , so I thought I lived in some noble's mansion. The yard is quite large, the vegetable garden and shrubs are arranged neatly.

And I realize after walking around the house once. This house, it's completely surrounded by forest and there's no sign of other buildings? There's only a maintained road leading from a main entrance like place, everything else I see is only forest. A remote region style that can't even be called rural area.

Sometimes from the thicket a rabbit with a horn appears, making me think this is an another world.

"Sirius-sama, that is called a [horabi-] . It has a timid personality but, it's a monster so don't get close to it." *(TL Note: Shortened form of horned rabbit most likely.)*

Hm, I expected this from when I saw magic, but it seems there are monsters in this world.

It seems like dragons and other fantasy creatures would normally be here, it seems I should start training my body from tomorrow on. I wonder if I should partly stop acting like a baby and begin training. If after a while I can show what I can do and show the speed of my growth, it seems that any feelings of mistrust towards unusual growth would lessen as

well. A one month after learning to walk, it would be ideal they'd just smile and nod even if I began jogging.

"Elena-sama."

"Ara, is pruning over?"

"Yes."

Turning towards the voice, a young man wearing work clothes and carrying pruning shears walks out from between the trees.

To me this is the third person I discover.

A young man with short light-brown hair and sharp eyes, tall too, somehow he has a hard to approach atmosphere. Seems like someone meeting him for the first time would hesitate to start talking with him.

"Apu has bore fruit. Today I'll bring some out for evening meal." *(TL Note: A fruit named apu, probably apple like?)*

"Is that so. It's Noel's favorite food, seems like she'd jump from joy."

"Yes."

He might not be good at conversation, his words are few and straightforward. His expression hasn't changed a bit from before, in my previous world it would definitely be communication sickness.

Probably noticing I was watching him, Elena-san introduces Dee.

"Sirius-sama, this is Dee. Our house's gardener and chef."

"Elena-sama, it's impossible for a baby to understand."

"That might be so, but I must properly introduce you."

"...That's right. Please call me Dee, Sirius-sama"

"Yee-"

"!?"

He probably didn't think I'd answer, Dee's expression slightly crumbled.

It feels like a completely useless win.

"...I'm looking forward to the future."

"Yes, really."

The two's eyes narrow, gaze gathers here.

The future...hm. Saying now only training my body in case of trouble comes to mind. Before that, the persons most involved with my future can't be found.

I haven't seen their figures even once, because there are no photos I don't even know their faces.

Intentionally avoiding it and completely ignoring the topic, I also kept pretending not to notice but, it's already becoming quite strange.

I wonder, where are my parents?

Chapter 2

What is Magic?

Part 1

In my past life I never knew my parents.

By the time I became self-aware I was already in an orphanage. That orphanage told me that my family was killed in a terrorist attack.

As the sole survivor, I stumbled around without purpose until a certain woman appeared and adopted me.

She was a strange person who lived alone in the mountains.

The fact that I managed to live till 60 was probably thanks to her (my Shishou's) guidance.

In other words, it's thanks to the living hell (the 'training') that she put me through every day without rest.

Thanks to that, be it now or in the past, if I were to meet my real family I could stand proud and say I did my best every day.

That said, despite my mind being that of a 60 year old, in this world with Elena-san, Noel, and Dee I'm not particularly lonely.

Although this world is missing many of my world's modern necessities, for now I only need to concentrate on forging a strong body.

Part 2

Half a year has already passed.

Today as-well, without being seen by the maids, I carry out my daily training.

Though I say training, right now all I'm doing is lifting my arms and legs up; it's closer to gymnastics.

Since I'm still in an infant's body, putting too much strain on myself will only be detrimental to my development--and could even kill me.

Though this may look unrefined, it's part of a diligently devised plan. The one who developed this training method was my Shishou.

"If we were to get a baby, and start their training before they'd even become self-aware, I bet they would quickly become an even greater warrior than me!"

"...Shishou definitely killed people even before becoming a warrior."

"Well... those were, you know... it was killing in order to live!"

'Hell's training from birth!' was a name with bad taste, but Shishou enthusiastically told me about her planned method with a gleeful smile.

I never expected I'd be using it for myself. The plan was rough and the training severe, but all of it had sound reasoning behind it. Where it may have been lacking I adjusted it with my own knowledge.

It was tough, but seeing my rapid progress kept me encouraged to continue.

A few days ago I started crawling.

When Noel saw this, with a wide grin, her ears and tail stood up and she dashed off to summon everyone in the house. They were all very pleased to see me moving about. That night at dinner even Elena-san, who didn't usually drink alcohol, was giggling away with good-humoured tipsiness.

Part 3

A year after being born.

My body has been developing favorably. The daily training has moved on to things like push-ups and sit-ups. I'm still careful not to over-train, as doing so could stunt my growth.

It's about time I started jogging to increase stamina.

My debut as a warrior is drawing near.

"Haihai~ Sirius-sama, look here please."

But Noel's attitude toward me still doesn't change.

Although Elena-san told her [Don't use fire magic around him because it's dangerous] , she seems to enjoy showing it to me. That said, since one day I'd like to learn how to use it too, I'm grateful for her disobedience.

"I ask thus; reveal the truth of fire, let the fire God's power come forth! [FLAME!] "

With her eyes closed she chants these words, and a flame appears in her palm.

No matter how many times I see it, I don't understand. What's the theory behind it? What's being burnt as fuel?

"Heheh~ with this do you respect Onee-chan's ability? ...although this is the only magic I'm good at."

Oi now, young lady, you're letting the truth slip out... I guess she just wants to put on the air of a strong older sister.

Although I have the mind of an old man, a child trying their best to surpass their limits is definitely cute.

After that, Elena-san saw and got angry with Noel again.

The next day, after getting up and finishing my physical workout, I decided to challenge magic.

It'd be all good if I had an instruction manual, but forget that; I haven't even found a single book. Without modern manufacturing techniques, paper its-self might be an expensive rarity.

Furthermore, my only knowledge of magic is from the time Noel showed me her fireball.

For the time being I decide to try imitating what she did, but… nothing happened. Is it concentration I'm lacking, or is it another matter? After that failure, I continued with trial and error for a while but in the end nothing happened.

There's no helping it, shall I try bait her into play-teaching me somehow? Being told I had no talent would really suck though.

It's after lunch, and everyone is gathered together.

In this relaxed atmosphere, Elena-san and Noel are knitting and Dee is sipping tea.

While staring at these three sitting there, I begin put my plan into action.

"Elena-san, Sirius-sama is looking this way ya know?"

"So he is. Perhaps he's interested in knitting."

"Elena—"

"!?"

Elena-san drops the thing she was knitting.

"…Sirius-sama. Once more. Please say it once more."

“Elena-“

“Aa… aa…”

A few tears flow out as she’s overwhelmed by emotion.

“Sirius-sama! Me too! Me too please! Noel! No-e-l!

Her face is close.

It’d be fun to see the usually emotionless Dee’s reaction too, but it seems like that’d crush Noel’s pride.

“Noel~”

“Kyaa! Sirius-sama, next please say Onee-sama!”

Getting carried away in the confusion… just what is this girl trying to make me say? Since she’s like that I’ll just ignore her.

Turning around I see that Dee is also nearby. Do I want to push my luck? Yep. I’ve already said this much. I point toward him and say…

“Dee~”

“…yes”

As usual his expression doesn’t show much change, but as if savoring the moment he closes his eyes.

But, my plan isn’t over yet.

Putting power into my feet and supporting myself with my hands, I stand up.

Heading toward Elena-san as she wipes away tears, I slowly place one foot in front of another.

“S-, Sirius-sama!? That is…!”

“He’s walking! Sirius-sama is walking!”

To suddenly starting to walk perfectly might seem creepy, so I advance while occasionally pretending to stumble.

It was only about 5 steps, but I safely reached Elena’s outstretched arms and met her embrace.

“Very well done Sirius-sama, Elena is proud of you!”

“He’s a genius! This boy is without a doubt a genius!”

(*TL Note: Kids normally learn to walk around this age btw)*

Being crushed between the two of them as they dance around in celebration is a bit painful.

Rather than stop them, Dee announces that he’ll prepare a feast to celebrate.

Perhaps I overdid it a bit…

They had a hard time stopping Elena-san before she drank all the wine.

The next day I increase my walking distance. These people don’t seem to see my growth as abnormal, so I should be able to start my jogging in about a months’ time—no, as it is, half a month shouldn't be a problem.

The problem is magic - as something which didn't exist at all in my old world, I have no idea how to get started.

Though it was only a few words, I’ve shown I can speak, so somehow perhaps I can get Noel to teach me.

“Good afternoon. Today I’ll show you some different magic~. Uuumm… if I remember right, this one shouldn’t be too dangerous…”

Noel came to show me magic again today. But unlike before, because she apparently wants to show me something new, today she is holding a single thick book.

Nice one, Noel!

I was waiting for this moment! Now, stop hogging the book to yourself, hurry up and show me!

Pointing at the book, with all my might I try to give off the feeling that I want to see it.

“Ehhh, you’re interested in this? Hmm. Wait a second please.”

She likely went to get Elena-san’s permission. Before she would have shown it to me without asking for permission, I guess this means she’s grown up a bit? While I was feeling moved by her growth, Noel returned with permission.

With me sitting on her soft lap, the long awaited [Elementry Magic] textbook finally opens. I look at the page before me-- Oi! I can’t read any of the characters!... Bah, no choice, I’ll have to wait for her to read it out to me.

“Uhhm, [Magic - first principles: Magic is still an unexplained phenomenon, however, it is an omnipotent power which can bring out the blessings of any object.] ... it says. Though I don’t understand it at all!~”

I answer her with a beaming smile.

I can’t understand the letters, but as long as I know the basics of magic I can improve through my own efforts.

Though she doesn’t understand what she’s saying, Noel dutifully keeps reading aloud.

The writer uses very poor grammar and indirect syntax, and his handwriting is so bad that just being able to read it is impressive.

I try and organize the information in my head in a way which I can understand:

Magic uses mana to create physical phenomena.

Mana can't be seen, but is present in everything. Humans also store and use mana to live.

By using the mana within our bodies we're able to produce things like Noel's flame; a common magic.

It seems that by drawing a magic circle you can activate magic simply by pouring in magic.

The night-lamp and cooking fire seem to be magic tools which work on this theory.

Expending a large amount of one's magic power into such magic tools seems to make a person feel physically weaker.

It also seems that you only have to draw a circle once and it can be reused time and time again; making daily life much more convenient.

Another type of magic is to borrow the power of the spirits, Spirit magic.

Spirits huh… it sounds like something a person suffering from Chuunibyou would enjoy.

Because the magic's effectiveness depends vastly on whether the spirits like the one who summoned them or not, it doesn't seem to be very popular. Since spirits can't be seen or touched, you have no choice but to wait for them to approach you. A method to increase intimacy with the spirits still hasn't been figured out.

There are a lot of mysteries surrounding spirit magic. What is known is that to invoke magic you need to cast a chant. As you chant, the magic within your body starts to gather and becomes a phenomenon.

Each magic has its own keywords, but they're not set; for example when Noel used flame, her words could have been slightly different and still produced the same result.

[As long as it's something to do with fire, and you have the confidence and desire to summon a flame, it'll work.] is what I think the book is saying.

So basically, there are some key-words which you need to include in the chant for it to work, but otherwise chants can vary.

It says that there are researchers who work night and day experimenting with chants in order to shorten them. For example, [Flame] is the basic keyword for fire magic, and the rest was read from the book to give support.

To use magic you consume your magic power; which is why you feel weak after using too much.

As your magic power depletes, your whole body starts to feel sluggish – if you continue to use magic then you end up fainting. Training until exhaustion during childhood will increase mana capacity and skill; if you haven't reached your maximum potential by the time you're an adult then it is near impossible to do so as training once reaching adulthood has a significantly reduced effect.

It also seems that maximum magic potential & how quickly you'll advance is largely decided before birth, and the potentials vary greatly.

The training method mentioned in this text book has an exponential growth effect; so if I started training it along-side my physical training now at only 1 year of age, then my magic-power should grow extremely fast.

Though compared to physical strength the potential for this to cause trouble is much higher, so perhaps I'd better not.

That said, even if your magic power is low… isn't it alright to rely on the external mana?

Since the book said that magic power is just floating around all over the place, if you were to use that then surely you could use super-strong magic with ease? The book answered my question though; apparently the magic in the air is of a different quality to that in our body, so it can't be used.

As an example, if human mana were black, then the mana floating around in the atmosphere is white.

To use the white mana, you'd need to gather it all up and convert it to black mana; which is simply not possible, and even if it were, it'd be inefficient – is roughly what the book says.

Even more important than one's mana capacity is their mana attribute.

This too seems to be decided at birth, but unlike mana capacity, your attribute is impossible to change.

Since Noel used [Flame] magic, her attribute is obviously fire.

Since she's fire attribute, she excels at fire magic, while someone with the water attribute would excel at water magic.

Hearing this, my current objective has become to find out what attribute I am.

Though it's not that you can't use magic from different attributes to your own, but when doing so there is an extremely steep drop in quality.

When we finished the section on affinities, Noel closed the book.

Quite a long time had passed.

"Fuu~ let's leave it here for today. Reading aloud has tired me out~"

"Good work. I've prepared some tea so go ahead and take a break."

"Wah! Elena-san, when'd you get here!?"

Looking around, Elena-san stood there with a smile with a tray of black-tea.

"Just a bit ago. Rather, you must be thirsty right? I'll take care of Sirius-sama so go ahead and relax."

"Thank you very much."

I get up and start waddling towards Elena-san's lap.

The young Noel's lap is comfortable too, but as expected Elena-san's is exceptional.

Elena-san took the book from Noel while gently stroking my head.

"Anyhow he sure is studious. It already feels like Sirius-sama will be using magic any day now"

"Ahaha. No chance! After all even I had an awful time at learning just elementary magic. Besides he can't even read yet you know?"

"That's true. But if it's Sirius-sama then I can somehow see it happening."

"Mhm, I can't totally deny it… But it'll still be a few years yet."

And as such the two of them laughed while drinking tea.

Hmmm… if it's me, huh? If they're putting such expectations on me, I have no choice but to meet them! First of all I better start learning to read.

"Attribute huh… by the way, what do you think Sirius-sama's attribute is?"

That's something I want to know too!

I'm not too fussed over what it is, but if it were water or fire I think it could be pretty handy.

"Shall we look into it? There should be a testing tool in my room."

"Ah- that. I'll go grab it."

Noel returned carrying an object wrapped in paper. Inside was a small, round crystal.

From the looks of it, it seemed to be something easy to manufacture. However, the wrapping paper had a complicated pattern painted on it – this would probably be the 'magic square' mentioned in the book.

The basic attributes; Fire, Water, Wind and Earth, were written on the magic square. It seemed that you'd place your hand on the crystal, and it'd light up with a different color to indicate your attribute.

"Uhmm, I'm done filling it up with magic; we're good to go!"

"Well then, Sirius-sama. Please put your hand here."

"Ai" *(TL Note: Baby-speak for "Hai/Yes")*

My heart starts racing with excitement as I stretch my hand out.

Immediately the crystal emits a dazzling light. I instinctively close my eyes. Because I was temporarily blinded, I missed the color change. Since I took my hand off the crystal without thinking the moment it started shining, by the time I'd opened my eyes the light had already disappeared and I had no idea what color it had been.

"Elena-sama, just now was…?"

"Yeah, it was a light, but…"

Oh? Somehow their words and expressions seem stiff.

Since the result seems uncertain, let's give it another go. This time, while using my free hand to partly protect my eyes, I'll see what color it is.

"It's colorless after-all."

"No way…"

Ehh… Why do the two of them have such a sad expression?

I thought it was a really strong light though…

Does it being colorless mean I have no talent? Is that why they look disappointed?

A bit bewildered, I embrace Elena-san, who looks as though she's about to cry.

"God is… so cruel. Sirius-sama, I'll… I'll definitely give you a magic-charm!"

"M-, Me too!"

Why am I being looked at with such pity? I'm begging you, give me an explanation.

Thinking about it, these two have always cared for me and put great expectations on me.

But colorless huh…

It has an ominous ring to it…

Chapter 3

"I want to use magic!"

A one-year-old man

Part 1

A few months have passed since discovering my attribute was colorless.

Other than perhaps being overly-doted on, there haven't been any major problems.

After being read many more books covering a variety of topics, I am finally able to understand the writing and am capable of reading myself.

If I were to meet any other 1 year old who could read, then I couldn't help but be creeped-out and suspicious of their circumstances, so I'll keep this skill a secret for now.

It seems that books are indeed an expensive privilege in this world; Elena-san showed great pride in every book she owned despite some being worn and tattered.

As expected this world closely resembles my world's middle ages, but with magic.

It is a severe world, with a variety of different races like Noel competing to survive, there was strong discrimination between nobles and commoners, and there was a chance of being insta-killed from running into one of the Demon race.

That was how cheap a life was here; it was survival of the fittest.

Using the knowledge from the previous world, I'll develop my understanding of magic, forge a strong body, and live on in this new world with all my might.

I'm not so optimistic as to expect a 3rd chance.

But… I'd already failed at the first hurdle; magic.

[Elementary magic textbook]

The magic book detailed the method for determining one's attribute, as well as the meaning of the colors.

Red: [Fire]

Blue: [Water]

Green: [Wind]

Yellow: [Soil]

And my colorless… [None] .

Yep. I had no attribute.

Unfortunately this didn't mean that I could use all of them freely; instead it meant that I suffered the steep non-attribute penalty in all of them.

"Seriously…?"

I muttered reflexively.

The book I hold now is [Albert's Adventure Log] .

The author traveled all over the world and wrote about the strange customs of other lands, or mysterious phenomena he encountered.

Basically it was an autobiography, but has many interesting things written in it, like; a volcano-like mountain which erupts with water every year, a special trait of the cat tribe, a strange custom of the silver-wolf tribe. Things which were impossible in my previous world

were written about frequently, and while many of the stories were interesting and some were even humorous, in emergency situations the writing became very serious; it gave off the impression that the author did not try to warp the truth and detailed things as he saw them – this made me approach the book as a worthwhile study about the world rather than a fiction for entertainment.

Then, right there it was written -- about the colorless attribute.

It was a short section, not even exceeding a page. This was what was written:

[I've been wandering for several years now and feel that I've spent every day meaningfully.

I've met many different humans, and various races, and the importance of magic in their everyday lives is apparent.

However, my greatest dissatisfaction is discrimination. It's present everywhere; between races, nobles and commoners… Seeing the disparity in their living standards makes me very sad.

And, in certain town, I encountered yet another form of discrimination; someone with a magic attribute I'd never seen before.

He possessed no attribute at all, and thus possessed no aptitude in magic. To be born with no magic talent… a truly horrible fate.

If that wasn't bad enough, the town's people all discriminated against the man and labelled him as 'incompetent'.

'Incompetent'

Speaking with the villagers I discovered that this discrimination exists anywhere. It's said that those with no attributes are hated by the spirits.

But for the spirits to decide such an unfair thing before birth… It's not something I can't comprehend.]

Albert gives off a really manly feeling huh… no, that's not the issue here! The problem is people's attitude to these 'incompetent' people; in other words, to those with the colorless attribute – like me.

Because of it my interaction with the world will be more difficult. This is the true reason behind Elena-san and everyone's sympathetic reactions.

The strong light emitted from the magic-tester means that I'll probably have a much higher mana-capacity than most people.

But, since I have no attribute, I'll never be able to surpass elementary magic no matter how much I train.

At least it seems that with my high mana-capacity I'll be able to use magic-tools for longer than most people…

To be given a handicap like this right after birth… Damn it!

… Well, I guess it's alright.

After all, my original world didn't have magic.

Seriously… It's not like I can't use it at all, and I have 60 years of skills and experiences in areas other than magic - I've got no right to complain.

In fact isn't being known as incompetent an advantage? I can exploit their underestimating me and defeat them while they're off-guard!

No matter what form of enemy, if I stab 'em in their weak-spot while their guard is down, they'll die!

But still… this old-man wants to use magic!

It was written in the elementary magic textbook, but there also exists magic with no attribute.

It seems that there are chants for no-attribute magic too, but the problem is that since there are so few people with no attribute, not much is known. There is one though, [Light].

Going off the name, you'd imagine it to be a magic which creates light. It's listed under introduction magic so I should be able to use it.

However, only the keyword is written; they haven't included a detailed chant.

Then it should be fine as long as what I chant is related to that keyword? If so then even I should be able to do it!

"Sirius-sama, your Onee-chan is here~ It's Noel!~ what do you think, feel like calling me Onee-chan. It sounds good right?"

Just as I'm about to give it a try, Noel appears, spouting some foolish nonsense. This girl seems to want me to call her Onee-chan no matter what, but just to be clear--I definitely won't call her such.

If she's here, fine--let's have Noel show us this [Light] spell.

"Noel~ Magic~"

"Eh? Ah… no-… fine. You want me to do this one?"

Since we found out my attribute, Noel has avoided using magic in front of me.

I guess it's her showing consideration to me since I was deemed as 'incompetent', but honestly I don't mind at all.

I point at the page with the [Light] magic written on it and try to make my request known.

"Is it alright…? Hmm… but this is no-attribute magic so… yea. Ok, got it!"

"Ooh~!"

Quick to make a decision; as expected of Noel!

“But I’m not very familiar with no-attribute magic ya know.”

Ah. Certainly, she seemed to have the [Fire] attribute.

Perhaps trying to remember the chant for [Light] magic, Noel closed her eyes and put her index finger to her forehead to think.

“Umm~ …for this type of magic… to [drive away darkness] is about right. Well then, let’s do it!”

As Noeru inhaled deeply, the atmosphere around her completely changed.

“Beings of darkness, great warrior of light, lend me your powers; shine brilliantly and sweep away the night!”

The chant is so long…!

Is this really introduction magic?

Ahh, it must be because there aren’t any researchers working on shortening no-attribute magic.

[Light!]

A light appeared from the tip of Noel’s finger.

It’s dim, and already sputtering out, but it’s a beautiful sight.

I touch the light; it doesn’t give off any heat, but I certainly feel my hand touch something hard to describe – could it be mana?

She only used the magic for a few seconds, Noel’s forehead is already covered in sweat and she looks exhausted.

"Phewww~.. as expected I can’t maintain no-attribute magic for very long. Fire is the only attribute that’s not true for, though…"

She says it's because it's not fire magic, but I wonder if it could be that no-attribute has especially high magic consumption.

When I touched the light it felt like Noel's magic was flooding into it like an open tap.

It's only my own theory at this point, but I'm starting to think that the difficulties in using magic outside of one's own attribute may be because one needs to first convert their mana to the attribute they want to cast, which is very inefficient.

For example, if a [Water] attribute person wanted to cast a [Fire] attribute magic, they would first need to convert their [Water] attribute mana into [Fire] attribute mana, and a lot of magic power would be lost due to the inefficiency, resulting in higher mana consumption for a lesser result.

Importantly, this could mean that rather than [No attribute] magicians being unable to use magic, it's more likely that the type of magic which they are able to use simply hasn't been discovered yet due to a lack of [no-attribute] magicians.

In that case, there could be many other attributes other than the 4 elements which are simply undiscovered.

Maybe.

My only basis is from observing Noel. I want to investigate further and confirm.

"Amazing~!"

"Eh?.. Y-yeah! It's amazing right!? It's fine to complement me more ya know~. 'cus I'm the best!"

She seems quite pleased from my applause and praise. [In ecstasy] might be more accurate.

After that, Noel left the room to do other work.

Now that I'm alone, let's give this magic a go!

After seeing a practical example, all that's left to do is do it myself!

"Beings of darkness, great warrior of light, lend me your powers; shine brilliantly and sweep away the night!"

I spoke without any special theatrics, and my voice sounded childish, but I diligently recited the chant.

Imagining the light which Noel showed me, my whole body began to warm up; not a feverish heat—closer to the relaxed, warm feeling after doing light exercise.

I imagined this feeling moving towards my hand, and said the activation word:

[Light]

A pale sphere of light appeared in the palm of my hand.

It's about the same size as the one Noel made; nothing special, but still- Finally, my first magic!

As always, the principle behind it escapes me, however I'm very happy to have reached this first milestone.

Whoops. Frolicking around in celebration after only this much is unbecoming of a man!

Let's calm down and continue experimenting.

First of all, whether or not this light can be moved around. I close my eyes and imagine the light moving forward-- good, just as I'd imagined, the light drifted forward a few steps.

From here, I continued the experiment by making the sphere move further forward, suddenly, the light disappeared.

"Huh? The surroundings ar-"

The surroundings started moving by themselves, slowly slanting to one side--no, I was collapsing.

Before I could understand it I was already lying on the floor. An extreme tiredness enveloped me. Could this be-...?

“Aah, this is mana exhaustion huh...”

The situation was exactly as written in the book.

I knew it but, this is quite severe.

In my previous life, I could probably force myself to move, but that's impossible with this baby's body that has yet to mature.

Good thing I'm on top of the bed.

Even if I fell asleep like this there probably wouldn't be any discomfort.

But it seems I released light for around 10 seconds.

And on top of that moving the light may have changed the degree of exhaustion.

Like this I would not be able to endure it long enough for practical use.

How many times will I need to taste this tired feeling to suffice I wonder.

The future is long, time to sleep for now.

Part 2

The next day, I did my usual muscle training.

After a day passed, the tired feeling completely vanished, in fact, my condition felt better than before.

Even my mana seems to have recovered enough, at any rate, I'll practice and see.

Because I couldn't verify much before collapsing yesterday, I thought today I would investigate my limits.

Because I was excited last time, I didn't notice the mana consumption until I was empty.

How much fatigue before it affects my body, and if the magic could be stopped.

First, I'll start by determining the Danger Line where using more than what's available in my body will cause me to collapse.

Chanting, I waited for light to be produced.

While fully concentrating, I felt mana coming out of my body.

The sensation was similar to bleeding out.

The tired feeling gradually closed in so I thought for the light to go out in my mind.

The light properly vanished, so while letting out a sigh of relief I confirmed my physical condition.

Mhm, there's a slight sluggish feeling but it's not a problem.

The spell was maintained for 13 seconds, this is limit for now huh.

It may be in range of a calculation error, but I feel like it was longer than last time.

In this manner, I continued to temper my magic power.

While under a major misunderstanding.

Chapter 4

Elena's Struggle

Part 1

I, Sirius, turned three years old.

My body grew further and is now big enough for me to start jogging.

I'm actually running a marathon in the garden right now.

I keep running at a constant pace which puts a huge load on my body, when I reach my limit, I take a rest and then I repeat the whole process.

"Phew, I'm done with running for today."

Since I've reached my daily quota, I conclude my training with some supplementary exercises.

Next, I call out to Noel, she ran the marathon with me under the pretense of wanting to diet but is now nearby, lying down on her back, dead tired.

"Ah…… ah ah…… Si…Sirius-sama….. how come…… ..you're still fine?"

"That's because I'm stronger, your physical strength is lower than mine, you should go at your own pace from now on."

"Yeess——……"

Says Noel who runs out of energy by the end of her last words.

Even though she ran half as much as me, was it that hard?

I'm not the physical strength type, I convince myself of this while finishing my supplementary exercises.

At the same time, Elena-san offered me a towel and a drink.

"Thank you for your hard work, Sirius-sama"

"Thank you, Elena."

By the way, I'm talking that familiarly to Elena-san because she asked my to call her by name and without honorifics. *(TL Note: He's calling her Elena which is not really polite) I look at Dee nursing Noel nearby while I drink the water I was just given.)*

These two people seem to fit quite well together even though their characters are nothing alike, they probably get along because they are at around the same age.

"Don't overwork yourself."

"Thank you… phew… very much."

Elena-san is also watching both of them with a gentle smile. I'm also looking at them with a grin. I should leave those youngsters and get back to taking care of my body.

While I'm thinking that, I'm drawn toward the water well and I take a look at my new face's reflection. I'm only three years old but I do understand the particularities of my face and I think that it's pretty good. My hair is black and gives off a soft impression. My face is pretty rather than handsome. It's not all that different in comparison to the faces of the only three people I know either, it's a plain and normal face. At least I'm not a failure in this field, I'm relieved now that I confirmed it. However, I'm just not impressive enough. Because being intimidating is important appearance-wide, this gentle-looking face will be a minus. It could be a problem in the future.

Since I'm done with physical training, I should start training my magic, right?

By the way, taking advantage of becoming three years old, I showed the three people that I was able use magic. They started looking at me with dot-like eyes as if time had stopped.

“Sirius-sama, Dee and I are going back to the mansion, it’s almost time for lunch.”

“All right, I’ll be back home when I’m done practicing my magic. “

Just like for my physical strength, I’ve been training my magic.

I can now stand using [(Light)] for one minute while I used to hold it only for ten seconds. it increased by 6 times. The book was right, this growth speed was abnormal. One of the reasons for that is that I’m still at an early age an that I used the various training methods listed in the book for one years old, two years old etc…

However, I think that the real reason behind this abnormal growth is the speed cycle. I squeeze out my magic power to the limit then I recover, then I squeeze it again and I recover again and I keep repeating there two steps. Apparently, I recover faster than other people. Therefore, I can make more repetitions than a normal person.

Only a few kinds of magic were increased.

To begin with, the no attribute magic is weak, the book only had 3 spells for the [(Light)] magic. Is light magic really that unpopular?

The magic I learned is [(Impact)] and [(String)] .

First of all, [(Impact)] , to make it simple, it’s a spell that throws a mass of mana.

The mana is collected to one place, it flies, and it’s thrown. Though it is doubtful whether you can call that magic, it’s unfortunately weak.

Mana is originally a thing without mass. Because it’s hardened by force, it’s given some mass but it’s just not hard enough. It gives as much damage as throwing a rubber ball. To make it worse, the range is also short and the spell disappears when it gets a little too far

away. It's more efficient to throw a regular rock. Because there wasn't enough research done on the subject, it was bound to be weak.

[(String)] is a spell that makes a string out of mana.

The magic string can be extended and It is possible to draw an object toward one's self by wrapping the string around it. It makes the user look like he's shooting a spider's web. Speaking of spider, can you swing between trees by using the magic string, like in that movie I saw in my previous life? Well, I tried, but it was impossible as expected. The problem with this string is that it's hard to maintain its shape and that it's quite weak as well, to the extent that only something like a twig or a nut can be pulled with it: at most, it could be useful as a support technique.

It seems useful when compared to [(Impact)] but the truth is that these spells are really weak by this world's standards.

This concludes my report, after all, all I got is two weak spells. Since I'm not good at controlling the attribute, I'll have to master those at least.

Therefore, I keep using it as much as I can, I'll raise my magic little by little. Though I'm giving priority to my physical strength right now, I still want to research and improve my magic.

Well, I still have some time 'till lunch, right? I aim my hand to the target I put on a nearby tree and I shot my [(Impact)] spell.

"Creatures of darkness, paladins of light, help me disperse the night, and release the light [(Impact)] "

The transparent magic sphere with the size of a baseball ball appears and starts shaking. However, from an uninformed person's point of view, it would seem like only the target is swinging when the ball is thrown on it. Though the size of the magic sphere can be adjusted, enlarging it consumes mana and maintaining the enlargement is difficult as well. I'll reach my limit if I use this around ten times. I swing precisely ten balls toward the target then I stop. Ah, I can't get used to this heavy feeling no matter how many times I experience it.

After settling down my body, I take a deep breath and turn my gaze to Noel who seemed like she had something she wanted to tell me about.

“So, Noel, what do you think?”（*TL Note: He’s just asking her if he was good at magic.)*

“I think you’re amazing for being able to use [(Impact)] ”

“Really? But it doesn’t cause any damage at all… “

“It’s still amazing for you to be able to use it this early. Are you really three years old? Aren’t you lying about your age?”

“Well, it’s because you showed me magic so many times that I somehow managed to get the hang of it”

“what? Then, is it thanks to me? YAY! I’m the teacher of a future great magician!”

Noel is really simple minded.

I said that in order to change the subject but I’m really thankful for her from the bottom of my heart.

I’m really tired so I take the still cheering Noel with me and I return to the house.

Three years after being born.

I’m watched by Elena, Noel and the fool, as I eat the dish Dee made for me.

I’m enjoying a safe and happy everyday life.

The end of this paradise isolated from the outside world will come sooner or later.

And its footsteps are surely approaching.

Part 2

Several days later.

The morning is slower than usual but seems kind of busy today. I change my clothes then I head to the dinning room to eat my breakfast as I wonder, just what is going on?

“Good morning”

“““Good morning”””

Three people return my greeting gracefully all together. I notice something while I head toward my chair. Noel and Dee’s clothes are different from usual. No maid outfit and no uniform, they are wearing normal and casual clothes. It’s safe to think that they’re going out somewhere.

“Are you guys going out somewhere? You went shopping just the other day.”

“Actually, I broke a fire magic tool just a little while ago. It’s a little sudden, but we’ll both have to go buy a new one.”

Though the mansion is self-sufficient to some degree, it’s still necessary to go to town once every several days to buy magic tools etc. I’ve never been there, but it seems that it takes half a day at most to get to the closest town, or so I was told, which means that the round trip plus the shopping takes about a day or so, and since they spend the night doing errands, they’ll be back by tomorrow.

I live in such a remote place in the countryside, but, mysteriously, I don’t go through any kind of inconvenience, or at least, I don’t feel like I do.

“How are we gonna manage during your absence? You’re the only one with a fire attribute, and Elena is of the water attribute, right?”

“It won’t be a problem for today or tomorrow since we have a fire stone.”

What is a fire stone? Well, it a mysterious ore which generates an intense heat when you put magic inside it. Though it's not possible to use it if it's not at least the size of a fist and if you don't put it in a combustible place and hit it with a hammer on the top.

"Do you want us to bring you a souvenir? You can ask for anything as long as it's not too big or heavy."

"No, I don't need anything in particular. I'll be content as long as you both come home safely. "

"Sniff... I'm touched by your kindness,Sirius-sama."

"Please leave it to me!."

Since Dee is a former adventurer, he's really knowledgeable when it comes to traveling. He went shopping a lot of times in the past so he's not worried at all. The two people, who finished eating soup and boiled meat and vegetables with brown bread, left pretty fast.

I also finish eating and and run outside to do my daily physical and magic training. After I was done with my quota, I started reading a book until it was lunch time.

"Do you want to eat outside today, Sirius-sama?"

"Yes, I do. You can go ahead and bring the meal over."

As Elena-san proposed, I eat my lunch on the table that's in the garden.

Today's meal is a handmade sandwich made by Elena-san. Although Dee's cooking is delicious, Elena-san's is exceptional as well. Especially since she's using salt meat and my favorite kind of vegetables, the ingredients are distributed in a particular way that makes it even better. I'll have her teach me how she does it next time.

"Please, take some tea after your meal."

Even though I'm already full, a herbal tea made out of a citrus called "Eriki" was prepared.

Although it's a little bitter, the taste is quite good. We're having a fine weather today. Enjoying a warm tea after a meal under the sunlight is kind of peaceful-…what the..?

"Elena, is there any Apu? I feel like taking a dessert now."

Apu is an apple shaped fruit.

Well, even if it looks like an apple, it's slightly smaller and it kind of tastes like strawberry.

"All right. I'll go get some in the kitchen."

Elena-san floated a smile and disappeared in the kitchen.

After confirming that she was gone, I spit out the mouthful of tea in my mouth and throw all the contents of the cup on the ground. I did that because I noticed the taste of something I was familiar with in my previous existence. I have a new body so I might be wrong. However, if I'm right, this is a sleeping medicine.

However, I don't get it. Why on earth would anyone try to force me to sleep? Am I going to be sold? No, I doubt it. There is no way the people who gave me so much affection would do that to me. Though I don't know what's thee point behind this drugging attempt, I'll pretend to drink for now. Even thought my tongue absorbed some of the tea, I'm not feeling any tiredness or drowsiness yet, it's probably a slow-acting medicine.

Afterwards, I eat some Apu with Elena-san, and I start my acting as I start feeling sleepy.

"ughh…"

"Are you tired, shall I prepare the bed?"

"Yes, go ahead, I think I'll have a little nap for now."

"Understood, please wait in the living room, I'll be done soon."

I yawn and prepare myself to go to bed and "sleep". As for putting the sleeping medicine, was it Elena-san's doing? I'd be glad if this was just my imagination. However, since the

others went outside, I did feel that something was off about her behavior. I'm not gonna run away, for the time being, I'll just go with the flow and see what happens.

I get in my room, roll myself in my bed-sheets and activate my magic with my eyes shut.

The reason why I'm using magic is to keep myself awake since I'm feeling slightly sleepy, it'd be a problem if I actually fall asleep. Right now, I'm on my bed, lying on my back. I'm waiting quietly and I'm ready to face whatever situation that comes at me.

A few minutes after that, someone knocked lightly on my door. I do not answer and I wait, without making any noise, the door is opened. Naturally, the one who opened it was Elena-san, she probably came to confirm that I'm asleep.

Well, what's going on? She suddenly takes a knife out and SLASH-

"Wha…. I…"

The knife comes close to me and everything goes dark.

Or so I imagined, but it was all in my head. While muttering in a voice too small to be heard, my head is lightly patted.

Though it is so pleasant that I almost fall asleep, I somehow manage to handle it and to convince her that the medicine worked.

She leaves the room again without making a sound.

When getting frustrated over not understanding the situation, I hear an unusual song from outside the windows

The sound of a horse's footsteps and the voice of a man, who's not Dee. Nobody came to visit here in the last three years, right? Is this to the reason why Elena-san has been acting this way?

From a gap on the window, I see a four-seats carriage stopping in front of the entrance. Two people come out of it. The old guy who was sitting on the driver seat stretches himself an takes a rest.

My eyes are naturally drawn to one of the men who came out of the carriage. He is wearing some very elegant clothes and got a very dignified appearance, he looked like some sort of aristocrat. Well, even if he does look like a noble, he's a little fat and gives off an unreliable feeling. His face's traits are pretty bad when compared with Dee's. As a bad feeling crosses my mind, the man sets a foot in the entrance hall.

I stick my ears to the floor and try to pinpoint his position. Though my room is in the second floor, I hear the footsteps of two people getting to the parlor of the first floor. This is probably a good occasion to understand the situation so I slip out of my room without making any noise and head towards the parlor's door. Because the door is pretty thin, I can hear the voices inside.

"Thank you very much for coming today."

"Ughh for god's sake… Just tell me why you asked me to come to this remote place."

They started talking.

However, Elena-san's voice seems kinda weird, it's mechanical, like she's not putting any feelings in it. It's the first time I hear her being so cold. The man, on the other hand, was just as I expected him to be. He's the same kind of man as the various useless bosses I got in my previous life, he's talking in an arrogant and selfish way.

Could he be…. No, let's concentrate on the conversation between the two for now.

Part 3

— Elena's point of view —

This day has come at last.

I hoped that it would never happen, but it can't be helped.

"Thank you very much for coming today."

"Ughh for god's sake… Just tell me why you asked me to come to this remote place…"

Did he already forget that he's the one who pushed himself onto us?

"By the way, Where did that unsociable man and that sup-person go? Aren't they going to say hello even though their master came here?"

"They went to do some errands. They won't be back before tomorrow."

"Well, that's good. Just looking at them is annoying."

He says that he wants them to say hello then he says he doesn't want to see them. Doesn't he notice the contradiction? In addition, he called Noel who's of the beast-kind a sub-person, which is a huge insult to her. This man is as pathetic as ever.

The number of his wives uselessly increased recently too, all the rumors define him as being more and more childish.

"Where is the spare? Why isn't he showing up though his father came?"

"Sirius-sama is taking a rest right now. He got a slight fever so I isolated him."

"He's sick? If he's weak, I don't need him. I have no use for a weak spare. "

Who is he calling a spare? Sirius-sama is not your tool.

I stop myself by force from doing something unsightly to him for insulting Sirius-sama.

I really want to hit his face right now. However, he's the one who holds the money and the power to raise Sirius-sama. I have to endure it, if I endure it, Sirius-sama will be safe.

"However, I don't need the spare any longer anyway."

"W-what do you mean?"

" My lawful wife finally gave birth to her second son the other day. I'll be able to avoid unnecessary expense thanks to this."

"R-really!? C-congratulations."

No….. this is bad, this is really bad.

Sirius-sama is the second son even though he is an illegitimate child. Therefore, as the eldest son, he was secretly raised close and his living expenses were paid in order to keep him as a safety measure. However, now that a legit second son is born, isn't it unnecessary to take care of him? Is his existence going to be ignored?

Though being related to this man and his inheritance is a problem, it's fine as long as Sirius-sama can grow up safely. This is what I promised to the Ojou-sama. This is my wish.

Therefore, you have to think Elena, think! Sirius-sama is still three years old.

I… I have to protect him.

"My third wife got a daughter as well. Though that was good, I still wanted to have two male heirs. Also, my eldest son learned how to write at the age of five. he got a really bright future ahead of him, hahaha"

At five years old? Though it is pretty early, Sirius-sama learned how to write by the age of two.

His growth is really fast and clearly abnormal when compared to other people. I become happy whenever I notice how much he grew up and I can watch him for all day long. Even if he grows up to no end, I'd like to watch him all the time, forever and ever.

However, if this man finds out about the talent of Sirius-sama, he'll surely abuse it and try to take control over it.

Since Sirius-sama is different from other people. By the time he'll be twelve… no, when he'll be ten years old, he'll be able to accomplish anything.

"He has a really promising future. Though I have seen a lot of children, I've never seen this kind of growth before. "

"Well, my second son will surely grow up to be something big as well, he's making the whole home bright."

"I heard a rumor about a rage disease recently, is that true? It might be kind of presumptuous but, how about the child's physical condition?"

"hmm? Well, indeed. Though the eldest son is healthy."

"What Sirius-sama has is not a disease, it's ordinary fatigue. But a baby would be weak to a rage disease."

"Well, I get your point. You're saying that I can't stop assisting the spare yet."

" That's right."

There is no guarantee that the man's second son will grow up to be healthy.

I bring up the worst case scenario to stall for time for time and raise the expenses given to take care of Sirius-sama, even if it's just by a little.

If he can reach ten years old safely, he'll be strong enough to live in the outside world.

“Though he’s not your legitimate son, Sirius-sama has a lot of potential in my eyes and I’m sure he’ll be useful by all means.”

“Are you forgetting that you’re talking about the child of that girl? She was completely useless except for her appearance.”

What do you even know about Ojou-sama?!

I hold my fist tightly under the table to the point where it become painful.

I repress my anger and continue putting on a false mask.

“I will raise him to become obedient. So please support him until he gets twelve years old, at least.”

“Hey, I’m the one who takes the decisions here! Five years. I’m not going to waste any more money than this.”

“Wait! He’ll still be a child in five years!”

“That’s not my problem. You’re gonna have to educate him in five years. If you hate it that much, nobody’s stopping you from leaving.”

“…… I see.”

I…… I’m completely powerless!

“Here is the money, I didn’t add anything more than what’s necessary so you’re gonna have to deal with that.”

I take the money bag he throws on the desk and I verify the contents.

No matter how I got the money, I’ll do anything if it helps Sirius-sama. I throw away any feeling of shame. But there is clearly less money than last time.

“By the way, I’ll be very busy in the future, so I don’t know when I’ll be able to come again.”

“Well, why don’t you use a subordinate as a messenger then?”

“You think I could let a subordinate come in here? I’m an important aristocrat with huge responsibilities, I can’t take that kind of risks.”

Could it be that he doesn’t trust his subordinates?.

Actually, I’m sure that’s the issue here. I remember being told that when I talked with the prostitutes in the town.

“I’m leaving now, I entrust the education of the kid to you.”

“Understood.”

I see him off at the entrance, I confirm that the carriage left and I’m able to relax at last. Am I more worn out than I expected? My body feels a little heavy. Sirius-sama will wake up soon, I have to go check on him. However, with the failure I just went through, I’m not worthy of facing him.

This paradise will end in five years…

To be honest, it’s too short.

When he’ll wake up, he won’t know about his father or the medicine and we’ll be able to laugh together. That thought is comforting me in my sadness.

Ojou-sama, I…….

Part 4

— Sirius' point of view —

The conversation finally ends, I return to my own room to avoid being found out.

I lay down on my bed and roll inside the bed-sheets again. I think about what I just heard. I don't want to admit it but, it that the kind of man my father is? So bad that Elena-san went as far as drugging me to sleep in order to not introduce us?

Parent's can't chose their children and children can't choose their parents either. Well, it's fine since we both don't want to meet each other.

From Elena-san's behavior, I've received a lot of help from that guy. At least I was able to find out my father's identity. I'll surely return the favor as soon as I can.

Is the problem my viewpoint?

Though I'm the son of an aristocrat who was born from a mistress, I shouldn't think of him as a noble but rather as a father. These peaceful times will be over in five years, too. Though I'll only be eight years old by that time, it's just enough when you know that in this world, you're treated as an adult at thirteen. I'll be able to train for as many as five years and I'll undoubtedly improve my abilities but my young face will probably bring a lot of unexpected troubles.

Then there is Elena-san, Noel, and Dee, too. What will they do in five years?

It is useless to think that much, there are too many possibilities. I'll make it simple, for now, I have two things to do.

First, training earnestly.

I have to build up a body that can deal with anything. I don't think I need to explain any further.

Second, get the support of the three people.

The three are undoubtedly allies. But I wonder what they would do if I get thrown. I'll let out a little more of my secrets by next year, then I'll work on a strategy with them.

I just have to find a way to explain my knowledge. I can't suddenly announce that I have memories from a different world. I keep thinking about a setting.

"All right, it's decided."

Though it seems kind of impossible, I was able to make up a setting to some degree

I get up from my bed and as I stretch, I notice something strange.

Elena-san is really late.

Even if she was just slow at making dinner, she'd have at least showed up once. I guess she's just feeling bad about this whole situation and is too ashamed to show herself? If that's what she thinks, she's far from the truth. Right now, I only feel like thanking her.

I go out of the room and start looking for Elena-san.

I cheer myself up to avoid getting depressed as I go down to the first floor.

And I immediately find Elena-san.

She is lying down on the floor in the kitchen.

Chapter 5

First Time Outside

Part 1

“Elena!”

I start running after letting out a scream that surprised even myself.

I rush up to Elena-san and check on her.

The first thing I notice is her abnormally high temperature. Every part of her body is hot, she’s having some difficulty breathing and she’s sweating a lot as well. Though her condition is obviously bad, I stay put and I lay her down on the kitchen’s floor. I try calling out to her several times… in vain, she’s either unconscious or unable to answer. I don’t want to move her around too much but I don’t really have a choice.

After getting pumped up, I slip my hands under Elena-san’s body and lift her. As a three-years old child, I shouldn’t be able to lift an adult woman and that’s when my training comes into play. Though I somehow manage to put her on my back and to give her a rather clumsy piggyback ride, I try to walk slowly, step by step, in order not to hurt her. This is pretty hard to be honest, but Elena-san’s room is pretty close so I can handle it.

After arriving safely, I move her on her bed and I go back to the kitchen.

I studied medicine in my previous life but this is a different world. Though I do know an illness these symptoms correspond to, it could be a different disease.

I’ll postpone diagnosing her for now and I’ll focus on hydrating her. if she continues to sweat this much, she’ll be dehydrated soon. I prepare some water which I pour in a wooden cup and then I cut an Apu with a knife to make some tea. I take the parts of the cut up Apu

with my hand, I squeeze them and then I mix them with the water in the glass. I get a bucket, I fill it with water and I put a cloth inside. I take everything I prepared and head to Elena-san's room.

When I get back, Elena-san is already awake.

However, she looks pale and it seems like she can't even raise her upper-body, she turns her eyes to me and gives me an apologetic look.

"Sirius-sama…… I'm sorry……"

"It's all right, don't worry! For now, drink some water."

I stick the glass to her mouth and incline it slowly. She seems to be able to drink so I give her the water carefully to avoid making her choke on it. I put the glass away after she drank about half of the content and I start wiping Elena-san's sweat off with the cloth that I squeezed in the bucket, then I squeeze it again after wiping her and I put it on her forehead.

"Ah…… I feel really comfortable. Thank you."

"Never mind that, more importantly, what happened? Did you get sick?"

"Yes, it's probably… the Water disease."

The Water disease? I heard about this somewhere… Oh I know! It's in Alberto's travel diary.

According to that book, there were a lot of people who died of that disease in a certain village…. Rather, this is bad! This illness might actually be really dangerous! Because it's not a medicine book, it only tells the name and the consequence of that disease so I still don't understand it in detail.

"Don't worry, it'll be all right by the time Dee gets back here."

I wonder if Elena-san noticed that I panicked… well, her words did manage to make me settle down.

“There actually is a medication that cures the water disease so it’s safe, but, since we didn’t have any left, the other two went to buy some.”

“Is that so? Well, if you can recover, then it’s great.”

“Yes, I only have to deal with it until tomorrow. Though this affects only the people from the water attribute, I still don’t understand your attribute Sirius-sama, so, please avoid getting too close to me until the others come back.”

“All right, but I still want to nurse you, even if it’s just a little, you’ll need water.”

“I guess it can’t be helped…. Thank you very much, I’ll be in your care.”

After she said that, maybe because she feels relieved, Elena-san lose consciousness as if some sort of switch was turned off.

Dammit! Is she going to stay like that until tomorrow? I can’t calm my mind at all. I start checking Elena-san’s room to see if there is something I can do about this situation. Elena-san has some documentation on pharmacology and she also has some compounding equipment in her room. Maybe she has some physical strength recovery medicine.

Unfortunately, she doesn’t, and, thought it was not what I was looking for, I found another book instead. It has a ridiculously long title but I managed to translate it into something simple, [(The Universal Encyclopedia of Diseases’)] .

Because healing people with magic is a thing in this world, the medical knowledge is not advanced at all. That’s probably why the book is so thin, but it’s exactly what I need right now. I open it and I immediately look for the symptoms of the Water disease. I have a little trouble since it doesn’t have a table of content but I’m able to find what I’m looking for by skimming quickly through the pages.

Water disease:

A rare disease that releases the mana out of the body.

When that happens, the body starts generating heat abnormally to the point where it becomes too hot to be moved.

For unknown reasons, only people of the water attribute can get affected with this disease and it's highly contagious.

It can be cured by using a medication made out of Kelpie grass.

If it's not dealt with within half a day, it kills its host with the high temperature and the mana exhaustion.

Because of that, It is known all over the world as a horrible disease even if it can be cured.

It's not safe at all!

Elena-san has been infected by the water disease this afternoon and Dee and Noeru will be back by tomorrow afternoon. The sickness takes half a day to kill its host, if we wait for the other two, she's gonna end up dying.

I need to calm down… I… . I said that to reassure myself but there is no way I can do that. I don't care anymore. I'm just going to do what I want to do.

I quickly make a decision.

I turn over the books in the room one by one until I find a book related to medical-herbs. That's because I'm looking for [Kelpie grass] since it's necessary for the treatment. And since I found a book with the compounding method a little while ago, the only thing I need now is the material. I settle down and turn the pages in a hurry, looking for the word Kelpie grass. And I finally find the page I was looking for.

Kelpie grass.

A kind of medicinal herb that grows up by absorbing the mana that's underwater.

It's used for various mixtures and has great effects on the people of the water attribute.

It grows naturally on the waterside where mana is thick and it's really easy to collect.

There is a picture of the Kelpie grass on the page, too, so I record it in my memory..

I throw the book away and prepare to go gather the herbs. I take a knife from the kitchen to use as a weapon. It's a knife used to make dishes so it's not really strong, but it's still better than nothing. I don't take any protection 'cause it would obstruct my movements. I'm basing my strategy on speed this time and I want to return as fast as possible. I take a small bag on my shoulders and I put some water and a cut up Apu in evidence in front of Elena-san's bed.

After getting ready, I dash out from the door and jump to the sky. It's already dark outside, we passed from day to night during the events that happened. The moon, which is bigger than the one in my previous life, is shining more brightly than usual since it's a full moon today.

From the entrance, I face my destination, that is, the forest. I never entered deeply inside because Elena-san never let me, but I do recall hearing the flow of water from that direction. If I search there, I might find some Kelpie grass.

In a world full of demons, it's insane for a child to rush into a forest at night. However, there is no time, I'll never forgive myself if Elena-san doesn't make it. If I can save someone, I'll do it. With this determination, I charge into the forest.

Because it's full of obstacles and lacking in footholds, walking through the forest consumes more physical strength than expected. Though I got some experience in a forest before, this three years old body won't last long. I keep suppressing the consumption while avoiding the tree branches that seem to pop out of nowhere sometimes.

I find a small river after a short while and I start looking for the kelpie grass there.

"…. Is that the right place?"

Collecting the grass seems pretty easy but isn't it going to be difficult in the flowing river? Since it was written that it can be found on the waterside where the mana is thick, I have

to head upstream or downstream. I stick a wood chip in the ground to use as a landmark and I run deeper in the forest while staying alongside the river.

After running for about 20 minutes, I reach a small lake connected to the river and I stop running. The lake is fed by several streams and seems to be what I was looking for.

If it's here, I'll surely find the grass. Since there are no big trees around it, the moonlight can be seen and I can fully appreciate the view. And suddenly… I feel an odd presence and I stop moving. I can't just show myself in plain sight because it could be some sort of wild beast so I hide in a tree and I check the place from which I felt the odd presence.

And as I thought, there was something there.

A goblin.

It's a human type of demon with a green body and a horn on his forehead.

Its height is about one meter if I follow the scale of my previous life, it usually wears some dirty cloth on its waist and uses a stick as a weapon. Its strength is at the same level as the strength of an adult man but it's not smart, as for its speed, it's pretty slow.

In compensation for its lack of speed and intelligence, it's a very fertile species with an abnormally fast growth and a habit of teaming up in a group and that's why they usually form attack corps units to hunt.

As an omnivore, it eats everything, even people and it reproduces by raping women.

Someone capable of defeating an armed goblin by himself is considered a novice adventurer.

This concludes the info I got on the subject from Alberto's travel diary.

In other words, a goblin isn't a creature that a three years old can challenge.

Also, they're three…… No, it's not weird for them to be three since they're not human beings. However, I accept this challenge. Because they're obstructing my grass harvest. I jump down to the ground, I stay put and I don't feel like moving right now, but I'm short on time so retreating is not an option.

I grasp my knife in my hand and I pick up a stone at my feet, I then throw it to the mountain right behind the goblins. As the goblins turn around to look for the source of the sound made by the stone, I dash out toward them.

I crouch while still rushing at them.

Though the goblins turn around as they hear my footsteps, I'm already one step away from them. Since I'm smaller than them, I won't be in their field of view for a short time. If they lower their glance even a little, I'll be spotted.

I take advantage of this opportunity and thrust my knife in the throat of one of them.

While the blood that starts gushing out from inside him gets all over my body, the two foes remaining stop moving and open their eyes widely. How shameful of me to step unintentionally into a battle while I used to teach people how to avoid having to fight.

I pull out the knife by twisting my body, I direct it to the second goblin's throat, I try to cut it, but the knife breaks halfway through. However, I don't stop moving. I push the broken part of the blade with the palm of my other hand toward the goblin. the attack works, I don't lose my momentum and I triple the distance between us as he falls down.

As I turn around, I see the last Goblin looking fearfully at the bodies of the other two.

Only one remaining.

However, I don't have any weapon, I cut myself when I pushed the blade with my palm and it's painful. The remaining goblin starts screaming angrily, he probably recovered from his earlier fear. And I just noticed that this one doesn't have a stick as a weapon but a sword. Well, it'd me more correct to call it a short sword since its blade is small, he probably picked it up from a human.

When he sees me, the goblin stops moving and starts laughing loudly. Is he underestimating me because I look like kid? Does he get that I just annihilated his comrades in no more than a few seconds? Oh, right, it IS a pretty dumb creature. Though I just realized that I'm facing nothing more than a simple beast, I don't relax my guard

because fighting in half-assed manner can be fatal. I'll use his foolish confidence against him.

I don't lower my posture this time (No crouch run) and I dash at the goblin. As he keeps laughing, the goblin launches a rough attack but I'm easily able to avoid it by inclining my body, I then concentrate and start chanting. I make a mana ball at the size of baseball and I picture my hand as a grenade launcher.

"Creatures of darkness, paladins of light, help me dis…"

Oh whatever!

" [Impact.] "

I shot the mana ball while aiming at the goblin's at close range. As the bullet hits him, his body starts floating and he starts screaming with a desperate look on his face, I'm quite surprised as well by the power of my attack.

His swords is dropped so I take advantage of this opportunity, I pick it up and I thrust it in his throat with all my weight。.

Thus, the first monster hunt ended.

The fight is over, I confirm that there is no enemy around and let out a sigh of relief… rather, I try to. I have some difficulty to breath, am I more tired than I expected? Even if my mind is used to fighting, this is still a three years old body, I probably pushed it to the limit. I support my body which almost falls down and I start breathing calmly. I close my eyes and I slowly count to three.

It is a little trick to switch from a fighting state to a normal state. When I open my eyes and, I finally calm down. Now, Let's get back to searching for what I was looking for.

I said that but I find it immediately when I approach the waterside. Though one piece of grass should be enough, I take five just in case, I put them in my bag and I prepare to go

back. The blood will gather other demons so I can't stay too long. I wash my bloody face and I hurry back the way I came from.

Though I fall down several times from tiredness, I manage to return to the house without meeting any other demons. It's been about two hours since I went out.

When I go to check on Elena-san's condition, I find her hyperventilating and barely conscious. There is not much time left, I begin the compounding by using the book and the tools I found in the room earlier.

I put the Kelpie grass in a mortar and start pounding it with a pestle until there is no more impurities on it, then I do the same for a walnut-like fruit named "Kurumeshia". Once it becomes a green paste, I have to put it in hot water..... Wait, there is no hot water?!

I go to the kitchen which is equipped with a magic tool that produces fire and I infuse it with mana. Though it usually works just fine, nothing happens this time. I try several times but I get the same result, I check on the magic tool and I see where the problem comes from, there is a missing part on the drawn magic formation.

That reminds me that I was told this morning that a fire magic tool was broken.

Then, I look for the box of fire stones that should be in the corner of the kitchen but it's on the floor and all the fire stones are broken. That probably happened when Elena-san fell down earlier, the only reason why the fire stones didn't turn on is because the floor is made of rocks, I don't know if that's fortunate or unfortunate. However, I wonder if I can... No, I have to light the fire by myself.

There is some fire stone fragments remaining. I sharpen some firewood with a spare knife found in the kitchen and I stick the tip of the wood to a fire stone fragment. I'm using a primitive way to light fire by rotating firewood to produce frictional heat. Though this method demands a lot of strength and a certain amount of furniture, the fire stone compensated for that by taking the role of the ignition material and the fire lit up easily.

I raise the hit by sending wind at the fire until the the mixture of medical herbs and hot water boils. Though the top of the water takes a weird muddy green look when I put the

medical herb in it, it becomes transparent after a little while. The part that becomes transparent is the medication used to cure the Water disease. I collect some of it, put it into a glass and I'm finally done.

It says in the instructions the the final result should be transparent and let out a colorless light, since I managed to obtain that result, I guess that I nailed it..

I cool down the product then I rush to Elena-san's room.

"Elena, drink this, it's medication" .. ..".. ah.. ah....."

She seems to have regained consciousness but also seems confused, she mutters something while staring at an empty space.

This is really bad, but I have to make her drink it, even if I have to do it forcibly.

"I'm sorry..... I'm sorry..... I..... I....."

What the hell are you apologizing for?!

Dammit! I have to calm down but my feelings are taking over me, I'm being too emotional. This is too much, I'm trying to suppress my adrenaline but it's not working.

"Just drink it! I won't forgive you if you don't drink it! "

Elena-san's body trembles as she hears me shouting angrily. As I glare at her, I stick the glass to her mouth. I let her drink for a few minutes or so until she finishes the medication, then I give her a one word order.

"Sleep. "

Though my tone is harsh, Elena-san quietly close her eyes and begins to breath calmly. Some tears are falling from her eyes but those are probably tears of relief.

I put the empty glass on the floor as I realize that I'm done. There is nothing more I can do now, I can only wait for the results. As I reach my limit, I pass out while clinging to Elena-san on her bed.

Part 2

I feel something soft touching my head.

I'm patted in a way that feels familiar.

"Elena. "

I wake up instantaneously, and I raise my face in a hurry.

"There there…"

That was Elena-san who had her usual smile on her face.

Even thought her clothes and her hair are soaked in sweat, she looks pretty healthy and has her upper-body standing while she pats my head. I feel a little relieved as I look outside and notice that morning has come.

We're past the delay of half a day.

"….It all went well in the end. "

I can settle down at last when I look at Elena-san's face.

She seems to have recovered from the Water disease, she only has to rest now. As I try to stand up to get her something to eat, my leg fails to work, probably because I slept in a weird position, and I fall down toward Elena-san. I can't let a convalescent person do housework. I try to get up while feeling pathetic and stupid but I'm unable to do that.

Why? Well, because Elena-san suddenly hugs me.

"Elena?"

"Thank you. I just want to say… thanks"

My face is buried into Elena-san's bosom and, though it hurts a little, it feels kinda nice….No, wait a minute, I still didn't change my clothes since that fight.

"Hmm, Elena? You'll get dirty if you stick to me like that…"

"I don't mind the dirt of the one who saved me."

" If you say so. However, I don't want you to get blood on yourself."

"Blood?! Did you get injured?!"

She hugs me so tightly that I feel like my eyes are going to pop out and then she lets go of me.

She then starts scanning me and licking me with her eyes and finds it immediately. The big red stain of goblin blood on my clothes. Even though I went through so much to make her look healthy, her face turns pale again.

"Calm down, this is not mine. "

"But, you're covered in blood. "

"Well……"

Well…… I'll just be as honest as I can. I wanted to wait at least a year to reveal my true nature but I have to advance my schedule.

"This is a goblin's blood. When I gathered the Kelpie grass, I knocked one down because he was obstructing my searching."

"A goblin?! You defeated a goblin while looking for the Kelpie grass?"

"Well, yeah. I just took a kitchen knife and…"

I reproduce the movement I used to stab the goblin's throat.

Though Elena-san is dumbfounded as I expected her to be but I stare at her with a serious face. I don't know if it's because she understands that I'm being serious, but she calms down.

"Sirius-sama, just what are you? "

"There are many things we have to tell each other. I'm willing to confess, and you are as well, right?"

"...Yes"

"But, let's rest for now. We'll take care of that once we're done with taking care of our bodies, it's still pretty early and we're in a pretty bad state. "

"That's right. I'm sorry for showing this shameful side of myself. "

The story I'm going to tell her is pretty crazy so I'd rather talk once we both settle down.

I give a change of clothes to Elena-san and I leave her room, I then return to my room and start changing myself. Now that I see it, there is an awful lot of goblin blood on my clothes. I realize just how clumsy I was in that fight

After cleaning my body with the water of the well, I decide to make a snack and I get out of my room. I cut a share of bread into two equal parts which I soak into a mix of eggs, milk and sugar. I burn it lightly until it gets hot enough and there it is, the new world edition of the french toast. it's kinda strange to call it a toast since there isn't the necessary bread but that's not a problem. I'm quite confident in the taste as well. I prepare my favorite tea and I take everything I just made to Elena-san's room.

I knock at her door and then enter after waiting for a reply. I told her not to move from her bed but as I expected, she didn't listen to me, she tidied up all her room neatly and dressed properly. I guess I should let her eat before having that conversation.

"What is this? I've never seen this kind of food before."

“It’s a french toast, It’s sweet and it’s delicious. ”

“Then I’ll have some”

I actually wanted to make some porridge since it’s more effective to recover but there is no rice. That’s why I improvised and tried to do something soft that should be easy to eat. Elena-san eats the meal with a big smile on her face and nods several times.

“It really is delicious. I feel the kindness you put in this meal.”

“I see. Well, you’re still in convalescence so don’t overdo it.”

“I’m not trying to compliment you, those are my real thoughts. I am so happy that you’re taking care of me that much.”

I feel how glad she is by looking at her appearance as she keeps eating happily.

She finishes eating quite fast, we then take some tea and rest a little.

Now then, it’s time to have the talk that will change the outcome of my whole life.

“Elena, Let’s get to the important matter now. ”

“I see…”

“So, it’s like that, there is something about me that I—”

“Please wait. “

I wanted to say it quickly but I’m stopped.

Give me a break. I had to gather lots of courage to start talking, you can’t just stop me midway…

“Please let me talk first. It’s about your mother. “

Oh, I'm gonna find out who's my mother at last?

However, Elena-san's expression is complicated, the thing she's trying to tell me might be something that's not easy to say.

"I am sorry, there is a picture in the desk. Could you…"

I look inside the desk as she said to and I find an A4 picture.

There is the drawing of a woman on it.

In other words, this person is…

"That's Maria Eldrand, your mother, Sirius-sama."

Though it's not at the same level of a photograph taken with a camera, the picture looks very good and is in color.

I suddenly start feeling at peace when I look at the gentle eyes of the raven-black haired woman. I recognized my mother instinctively.

"And… she died giving birth to you."

Chapter 6

Past and Dreams

Part 1

“So that’s how it is…”

“I’m… very sorry.”

After announcing my mother’s death, Elena-san starts looking down without wiping her tears.

I don’t know if she is sad because of a feeling of guilt since she didn’t tell me before or because of a feeling of powerlessness. I should be the most affected by this but I’m actually calm an composed. Well, normally, anyone would be shaken up to find out that their mother is dead.

However, the experiences of my previous life don’t allow me to lose my cool.

I've killed a countless number of people and I lost a lot of my friends as well. It’s not that it’s impossible for me to feel sad, but even when I do, I can’t even cry. In my opinion, dying is just better and less sad than being paralyzed for life.

“Elena-san, It’s all right.”

“B-but, I lied to you…”

“You lied for my own good. How could I be angry at you while I’m so thankful to you?”

“But…. I….”

I return my eyes to the picture. She really resembles me a lot which just goes to confirm that she's my mother. I wonder what kind of person she was when she was alive.

"For now, I want you to tell me more about my mom."

"Oh! About ojou-sama? "

"Yeah, I want to know what kind of person she was, what she liked, anything you can tell me is fine really."

"Well, Maria… Aria-sama was quite the innocent lady. "

She starts recalling my mother with a soft expression on her face. Innocent huh, well, she does give off that kind of feeling in the picture, a pure innocent lady.

"She was the only daughter of the aristocrat Erdudorando. She was a very dignified lady with a very kind heart and she saved me when I fell into despair. Though her actions didn't please the other aristocrats, she had a mysterious charisma that could attract and enchant anyone. However, the Erudorando family ended up being defeated in a power struggle that occurred between the aristocrats and the clan was deprived of its noble's status. At that time, there was a foolish aristocrat who fell in love with Aria-sama at first sight. She married him in exchange for the protection of her parents. "

She sold herself for her family, I wonder how much resolution that demands.

"From there it got bad. The foolish noble got tired of Aria-sama after playing around with her once, she then got confined in this mansion and was not given any status. We three people who had no apparent future were hired in this mansion thanks to the recommendation given by the benevolent Aria-sama. Fortunately or not, by that time, Aria-sama was pregnant with you, Sirius-sama. When that was found out, she was given only a little amount of money in order to raise you to become a spare heir…"

I'm angry from the bottom of my heart. Though that aristocrat is my father, I feel no hesitation to feel genuine hatred towards him. Well, right now, I feel like she's spitting the resentment she pent-up during all these years.

“It was found out afterwards that the power struggle was caused by the noble in order to get Aria-sama. Her parents are still missing as well. Because of all this, I deeply hated the aristocrat and everything related to him.”

What a fuckin’ asshole.

If I had known that when he came by yesterday, I would have cold bloodedly killed him. While I’m having some dark thoughts, some wrinkles appear on Elena-san’s forehead as she suddenly stars smiling wryly.

“However, Aria-sama didn’t feel that way. She was just joyfully patting her growing stomach while in high spirits. “But this is that aristocrat’s child!”. Even after I told her something that rude, Aria-sama just calmly started talking.”

[(Because it’s that man’s child you want me to leave it? That’s ridiculous. This child is not guilty for the sins of his father and I’m sure he’ll grow up to be a wonderful noble. He’ll be with my mother and father who are still alive somewhere and he’ll also be with you, Dee and Noel, too. I can bring him at ease if it’s in that kind of environment right? What more could you ask for?)]

“After she said that, I couldn’t say anything back… The only thing that mattered for her was our safety and yours, Sirius-sama. In addition, for her, you were not only her child, but the child of all of us. Really, she was such a good lady.”

What a strong willed person. I would have loved to meet and see her even if she wasn’t my mother.

“And, at the last month of Aria-sama’s pregnancy, her health suddenly took a turn for the worse. Because she had such a weak body, it wasn’t strange for her to fall sick in those conditions. Giving birth to a baby in that state was a suicidal action. Still, Aria-sama wanted to do it and…”

I was born, and she died…

“(Your name is a sirius. My Sirius, and I love you. Don’t let anyone decide the course of your life for you, I want you to grow up while believing in yourself and not being tied up to anything. That’s my last wish as your mother. And Elena, please… love him in my stead.)”

“Those were the last words of Aria-sama. I was left with you and I was at a loss as for what to do, but, when I lifted you for the first time in my arms, all my anxiety and confusion faded away. You were that hateful man’s son, Still, as Aria-sama said, you were just an innocent child. That’s when I decided to follow the Ojou-sama’s will and swore to protect you, Sirius-sama. I swore to protect you yet… I… I…”

After saying that, Elena-san kept talking sadly about the current situation while crying.

Apparently, the aristocrat that came yesterday, my father, goes by the name of Bardomir Dorian. He gave us just enough money to live in this house for five years if we count the self-sufficiency of the house.

After spitting out those pent-up feelings, Elena-san calms down and starts looking bashful. She probably just realized that she is talking to a three years old.

“Ah…… I’m showing such a pathetic appearance. I apologize, I was confused and-”

“It’s all right because I understood everything you just said.”

“You did?! This… from a three years old… “

She gives me a surprised look which then turns into a look of astonishment when I mention yesterday’s conversation. She was especially shocked by my eavesdropping.

“Elena, I believe it’s now my turn to do the talking.”

“Well, what… do you have to say?”

“It’s my secret. Though it might be unbelievable, I want you to hear it and to tell me what you think about it. “

Right now, I'm not putting on an innocent mask or anything like that. Rather, I'm giving off an overpowering atmosphere. But, as I stare at her intensely, she just starts smiling.

"Please stop looking so uneasy and let me hear what you have to say. I'll still be your friend no matter what you tell me."

Wait, is my uneasiness reflected on my face? This childish body is making my control over my expressions weaker.

"Elena, do you ever have dreams?"

"Yes, a lot, but I usually forget them."

"Well I have them all the time and I remember them clearly."

I kept the memories I got from my previous life in another world where I lived for more than 60 years before dying… even if I say it and somehow manage to make her believe it, it'd be troublesome in various ways. That's why I decided to make my previous life a "dream" in my confession.

"Though I don't remember from what time it is, I keep seeing some man's life in my dreams. It's almost like I become that man, I go through various experiences and learn a lot of things every day. In addition, when I wake up, I remember everything, all the knowledge I get in my sleep stays in my head and I'm somehow able to do everything I do in those dreams."

"How can such a thing… Do you still have those dreams?"

"Yes, I'm still seeing them. The other day I had a dream where I went to war and learnt to fight. That's why I was able to defeat that goblin. I don't get why this is happening to me but I think it's a good thing. Because I was able to help you thanks to that."

"……"

With a lump in my throat, I tell Elena-san about my secret and she gives me a thoughtful look.

Honestly, I won't be surprised if she calls me a monster because my growth rate is too abnormal.

And her answer is… a hug.

"You rarely cry, you learnt how to read in a single year and understood magic so soon. It was questionable in various ways but to think there were such circumstances… As for the war… you must have had a hard time. "

Hmmm… Frankly I didn't think she'd believe me that easily. Though my mother said that I'm some sort of big-shot, I still feel like Elena-san is my equal. *(TLN: She is said he'd become a "wonderful noble", I guess that's what he's talking about)*

Rather… that's not exactly true. She is my unconditional ally and friend. She will keep standing by my side even if I become some sort of horrible criminal.

"That's my secret. And that's why I'm able to understand the current situation. I'll be kicked out in five years, right?"

"Yes, that's how it is. If I wasn't that weak you….."

"No, don't say that. If I'm here right now, it's because you did your best, Elena. That's why I'm still able to have fun with you, Noel and Dee."

"I'm not worthy of these words"

I think that what Elena-san feels for me is probably just normal affection one would feel toward a little child.

However, she's still my servant. She should put more of her heart into her work but I can understand how she feels if I look at it from her point of view.

Although, I don't know if "servant" is the right term to use to call her now.

“Once again, thank you very much. Let’s keep being friends from now on.”

“Yes!”

Well, somehow, everything went smoothly. I was able to explain my situation and I’ll be able to move freely without having to worry in the future.

“Sirius-sama, if it’s all right with you, how about we tell your story to Dee and a Noel?”

“To the two of them?”

“They were taken by Aria-sama just like me and we went through a lot of hardships together as well. They’re trustworthy.”

“All right. When they come back, I’ll explain everything to them. I wonder what kind of faces they’ll make.”

“It’s going to be a huge shock. I really want to see Dee’s expressionless face crumble. “

We imagine the other two’s reaction and we both start laughing. Noel freaking out, Dee trying to calm her down while staying expressionless and Elena-san laughing. Things won’t just go back to the way they were before, ’cause this time I won’t be the only one becoming stronger, everyone will as well.

Part 2

Afterwards, I put the kitchen in order, I boil some hot water then I wipe Elena-san's body with it. She kept refusing it but she smiled joyfully when I wiped her.

I serve some tea, the day comes to its end and the other two are finally back home. Though they just came back, they're strangely noisy. They're running about in the house and they open the room's door in a hurry without knocking while making a big ruckus.

"Elena! Are you alright?!"

Noel jumps in while breathing heavily. Dee does the same right after her. Elena-san puts her hand on her forehead while letting out a loud sigh.

"Noel you're being noisy. First of all, you have to report the situation to Sirius-sama."

"Oh, right! Sirius-sama, we have returned! We brought some medicine to Elena! We found out that the water disease had been spreading in town so we came back home as a fast as we could!"

"I understand so, please, settle down and explain the whole situation calmly. "

It was hard to calm Noel who was freaking out.

To summarize her story, apparently the Water disease has been spreading in the town recently. Though the town was troubled a little, however it wasn't that much of a problem since they had some medicine prepared just in case, but our house was out of stock, we didn't have any water disease medication left. They had planned to replenish on medicine while doing the shopping but they couldn't predict that the disease would spread in such a timing. However, the house is far away from the town. That's why they though that she wouldn't get infected there, but then they recalled the actual reason for their trip.

The whole point of the shopping was to avoid meeting my father since he was supposed to have a talk with Elena-san. And, the Water disease became got as far as the neighbor town

which is where my father. The chances for Elena-san, who's from the water attribute, were really high.

When they realized that, they came back while panicking.

As she stops explaining, Noel finally settles down. Dee's expressionless face somehow settles down, too. And they both leak a sigh of relief when they see Elena-san's face.

"Geez, I'm relieved. You didn't get infected and everything went well. "

"It did go well. "

"And I did get infected. "

"..... What?"

Noel's expression suddenly hardened.

"Oh c'mon, you look alive to me. Please stop joking around. "

"I'm not joking around. I got infected with the Water disease, I took some medicine and I was cured."

"But, we were out of medicine...Oh yes, I do recall leaving one bottle."

"That one broke. I took a medicine compounded by Sirius-sama."

She was trying to pat my head since I was sitting next to her, however she stops as she hears Elena-san's words, but I make her pat me by force by gripping her hand. Perhaps she thought that patting my head was rude, but because she's stroking the front casually, I don't see why she should hold back in stroking my whole head, I complain to her by shaking my head. She seems to get it and starts stroking. I'm a demanding man, but since I'm a child, it's all right.

"Ehh, well, if it's Sirius-sama, he'd surely be able to do the mixture... Hey, wait a second! "

“Elena is still in convalescence so please try to be a little quieter. ”

“Oh, sorry! However, how did you do the compounding? There was no Kelpie grass in the house. ”

“Well, about that, there is some thing I have to tell you guys. Dee, Noel, the thing I’m about to tell you is a secret and you must say nothing of it to anyone.”

“Huh? What? What kind of thing?!”

“I see. Noel calm down a little and try to be quiet.”

As Noel begins to freak out again, Dee strikes a pose where he can devote himself to listening while calming Noel down. Because Elena-san starts talking first, I nod to her to urge to continue and I leave the explanations to her. Not only because it’d be annoying to explain it all over again, but also because it’d be easier for them to consent to this if they hear from her and because if I tell, the story, I might change some part of it by accident which would be troublesome.

Elena-san kept explaining while being backed up by me from time to time, as the talk ends, the day i already completely set. And now, two other people know of my secret.

“““.....”””

As expected, It’s quiet.

Noel is switching faces from shock to happiness while Dee draws a wrinkle to the middle of his expressionless face and seems to be in deep thoughts. Well, that’s how it is, you can’t expect someone to act normally after giving him that kind of information so suddenly. Since the standstill seems pretty long, I make another set of tea, I place it in front of the other and, at last, the standstill meets its end and they start talking.

“Well, though it’s hard to believe in various ways, there are still some points I can agree on. Also, this…”

Noel drinks the tea that I made while nodding approvingly.

“This tea, it doesn’t taste like something easy to make. Actually, Isn’t it better than mine?! Rather… Dee, did you teach Sirius-sama how to make tea?”

“No, I didn’t…”

“Well, it wasn’t me and It wasn’t Elena either.”

“Of course not. That’s because brewing tea is our job in the first place, not Sirius-sama’s.”

This girl is quite sharp sometimes.

Just as Noel said, I didn’t learn brewing tea from any of the three. I was forced to learn how to do it by my master in my previous life since she was a big tea Otaku. It’s good that she’s not here, if she were to see me right now, she’d preach me for hours and make a long speech about why you should sit correctly while drinking.

There is a long list of golden rules you have to follow to drink tea, though they don’t matter in this primitive world. You have to make the water hot but not too much and not too cold either, you have to steam it for a short time as well, there is a bunch of those indications I didn’t follow but, well, it’s still really good.

But I’m getting off track. Anyway, Noel agrees that I didn’t learn this from anyone and that I learned it by myself which goes to confirm my story.

“Hmmm~ This is delicious yet it’s frustrating at the same time. Don’t you agree, Dee?”.. ..

“I do agree that it’s delicious but I don’t feel frustrated. Please teach me next time. ”

“Me too! As your elder, I’ll work properly to learn and get your level and… hmm, please teach me as well!. “

Well, this “elder” doesn’t seem to have much pride. Well, I’d like to drink some good tea from them as well in the future so I’ll try teaching them how to do it next time.

While we're all agreeing on this, Noel's stomach starts growling attracting all the attention towards her. She starts blushing but I guess it can't be helped since we're already past dinner time.

"I'll go replace the magic tool and I'll make something to eat as fast as I can."

"Uuuu, thank you very much…" *(TL Note: Uuuu is how you sound when you're embarrassed apparently.)*

"Dee, there is still some fire left from what I lighted earlier, you can replace the magic tool once you're done with making dinner, you don't need to do it right now."

"Understood, as expected from you, you were able to use the fire stones."

"About that, the fire stones box fell down earlier and all the stones broke down and became unusable."

""""What?!""""

Is there something weird about what I said?

The three others are speechless and have their mouths wide open.

"Dee, the magic formation didn't work right? "

"No, it didn't."

"Also, I'm the only one with a fire attribute but I had to go out."

"Sirius-sama, I'm sorry but, how did you make that fire?"

"Well, I used frictional heating, is there a problem with that?"

"Frictional heating?"

Somehow I feel like I'm conversing by myself for some reason.

Well, since example is better than precept, I get the necessary material and make fire by using the same method I used yesterday like a good child.

“There is no chanting? Wait, it’s not even magic.”

“This is amazing, it doesn’t need a magic formation nor magic from the fire attribute.”

“I’ve never seen anything like that, this is a revolution!”

Is something that primitive a revolution?

Well, the common sense of this world is quite different so I guess it’s……. Wait what?

At that moment, I realize the huge misunderstanding I had this whole time.

Thus, with this sudden realization, this event came to an end.

Chapter 7

Common Sense Break

Part 1

The next day, Elena-san has safely recovered.

I've been doing some thinking in the garden since this morning.

Elena-san is still resting as an extra precaution and Dee and Noel are both busy with housework in the mansion, because of that, nobody is around right now and I'm all alone in the garden. Since that's quite a rare occurrence, it's the perfect moment to cogitate.

The other day, I realized that I should question this world's common sense a little more. Well, I figured that out long ago but, before I knew it, I was already mixing this world's common sense and the previous one's.

In the first world, magic didn't exist so science was developed and evolved.

In this world, magic did exist so science wasn't developed and stayed primitive.

It's only natural for a difference to occur. It's that obvious yet it took me three years to notice it. Before I knew it, it was already common sense for me that magic was constantly used in this world because it was more convenient. Assuming that was careless of me.

There are three methods used to light fire in this world.

The first one is by using magic of the fire attribute.

The second one is by using magic tools.

The third one is by using a fire stone.

Though you can also use the fire made by some kind of demons, all in all, the three methods I mentioned are the mainstream ones in this world's common sense. But the method using frictional heat is unknown in here, it was Dee's first time seeing that as well even though he used to be an adventurer.

In others words, that knowledge was never spread among the people. Though anyone can make frictional heat at anytime by rubbing their hands, it seems that no one tried to understand this phenomenon or to exploit it. Maybe it's because this world's common sense is so fixed that it erases the need to look for other ways to make fire and make it seem like there is none. Well, my point of view is obviously obstructed because of what I know of the modern science of the previous world but it's not the fire that picks my interest in all that.

It's the fact that all this probably applies to magic as well, meaning that the knowledge about magic in this world is being held back by this fixed common sense.

I open the [(Book of intermediate magic)] that I put in front of me.

The book was bought yesterday during the shopping, I read it and I come across some interesting points.

I'll have to study and try out all of those points one by one.

First, the chant.

In the novice magic book, it was said that the best way to chant is by using chant shortening, but in this intermediate magic book, it's written that the best chanting is the No-chanting. It's a technique that allows you to throw the spell by only saying its name, it seems like it demands a lot of efforts and talent to use it.

I did something similar against the goblin I fought yesterday. While singing the chant of the [(Impact)] spell, I got annoyed and I stopped chanting midway but the spell still worked.

Chanting then adding the keyword [(Impact)] after activating and condensing the mana inside me, throws the spell wherever I aim, that's how it's done.

That time I didn't follow what the novice magic book said but I still managed to use the spell. Though I could explain that with the chant shortening, at that time I didn't shorten that chant, I just "skipped" an important part of it.

I think that something is amiss about this.

Let's think, when I threw the mana ball, I imagined myself shooting with a grenade-launcher loaded with some highly-explosive ammo. While I was using the magic, I unconsciously made the weapon intervene, probably because I was used to it and familiar with it in my previous life.

That resulted in a shot much stronger than usual which neutralized the goblin. Before that, the [(Impact)] I used never did anything more than a mark on a target or pushing a small object, it was strange for that weak power to be strong enough to blow away a whole goblin.

So, the important thing isn't the chant but the..... Image?

When I used the [(Light)] spell for the first time, I pictured it as something like a moving light bulb.

As for the [(Impact)] spell, since everyone gives it a weak image because it's a no attribute magic, it actually comes out as weak.

Maybe since I began using it after seeing a demonstration from Noel that image got stuck to my head? I doubt I can use the spell without thinking of the sample, but I'll try it anyway.

For this experiment, I won't be using any chant.

I imagine myself holding a large old-fashioned cannon between by hands, loading it with gunpowder then stuffing the powder inside with a long stick (a rammer) and loading it with a mana sphere which I imagine as a cannonball. The image I'm using is that of the old

kind of canon that was used to sink ships by bombarding them during a certain period in my previous world.

I close my eyes and concentrate, I collect the magic flowing inside me and turn it into a mana ball in my hand and I keep doing that for a little while. To aim, I turn my hand to the direction of the target I installed earlier and I picture myself putting the mana ball into the imaginary barrel after that. And then, I close my eyes and I pull a trigger in my head.

At that moment, I hear a huge PAN sound similar to the sound of a breaking tree and I feel like I lost some of my mana. When I open eyes, I see that the target I hung earlier fell down after breaking into pieces. Though I'm surprised by this unexpectedly strong power, it just goes to confirm my theory.

Changing the image changes the magic.

Moreover, I didn't even sing the spell's name, let alone the chant, and the mana consumption is pretty similar to the consumption of the normal [(Impact)] spell. Now that's what I call a revolution. But I still want to experiment with that a little more.

Next, I'm going to imagine an automatic pistol, a handgun.

I decide to think of a handgun because it can be used at short and medium range, it's pretty stable with its weak recoil, and it got a good precision, it's a beginner's gun that really fits the hand which makes it easy to use when compared to other firearms. It's pretty easy for me to picture one since I've used handguns for a very long time and I even disassembled some of them a bunch of times which makes me familiar with them.

Although my favorite is the Magnum, I take its strong power into account and I picture a more common handgun for the time being. Now, what's tricky but very important is sharpening the bullet the right way to make it go straight ahead and making the cylindrical shape of the gun barrel to make the bullet rotate. I don't close my eyes this time, I stare at the tree that I'm using as the target and I make my hand look like a gun by putting my thumb up and pointing out my index finger.

My mana is focused, the bullet is ready, the gun is loaded, the barrel is good. All right, trigger!

As a dull sound rings out, the tree I aimed at starts shaking and a hole the size of a thumb appears in it. I keep experimenting with this image while gradually growing the distance between me and the target, it turns out that there is almost no difference between the spell and the genuine gun. Additionally, there is no shooting sound and there is hardly any recoil. The precision is better than the real thing and the mana consumption is small as well. I'm starting to pessimistically think that there has to be a downside to something this convenient.

Though I got carried away and tried various guns after that, about half of them ended up misfiring. Those misfiring guns are the ones I didn't use a lot in my previous life. Since I'm not familiar with them, I can't quite picture them and they end up not working. I may have to know every part of the genuine article to picture it right and make the spell work.

I keep shooting as I make hypotheses and I stop when I reach 20 shots because I'm out of mana.

Since my body is starting to feel heavy, my next experiment will be meditation. This action allows the user to restore his mana faster without using any spell.

Normally, mana recovers naturally with the passing of time. And that's because people unconsciously absorb mana from the air and convert it to suit them and their attribute. The meditation allows one to do it intentionally to make it happen faster and sooner.

And the only way to do it intentionally is by relaxing in order to sense the mana in the air with my body first and then absorb it. Absorbing mana is too hard for a beginner in magic, that's why this technique is only mentioned in the intermediate magic book. This meditation thing reminds me of zazen, but, since the only thing I have to do is relaxing, I just lie down on the ground in the shape of an 大 kanji. *(TL Note: He stretches his arms and legs if you prefer.)*

I close my eyes and look for the mana… wait… how do I do that?

Isn't it something that didn't exist at all in my previous life? Well, that just means that I have to grope around for it. To begin with, mana is the mysterious energy that I'm able to feel when I use a spell, even though it's invisible. In other words, I have to feel the same energy from the air? I try to look for mana by concentrating on my surroundings.

..... Mana.

..... Mana.

..... Mana.

..... Mana.

.....

.....!

"!?"

I spring to my feet unintentionally.

Though I fall down 'cause I'm still half asleep, that feeling was certainly mana.

I close my eyes and start meditating again in fear of forgetting that feeling, but this time I'm able to sense the mana easily for some mysterious reason. It feels like some switch was turned on, like I was untied and a seal inside me broke.

I got the hang of it. It's overflowing in the air, it feels like a fog of mana is brushing my body.

Is that really what sensing mana feels like? Well, since there is no one to answer that question right now, I'll just go to the next step of the experiment.

It's written in the book that I have to absorb the mana next but, I don't get it. I take a deep breath as I realize that I'm in an impasse again. I try out various methods while groaning but I get no result, I just can't absorb it.

Ummm absorbing..... do the people of this world have a sense organ that allows them to do that? Then I should have it too.... even if I manage to absorb the mana, I'll also have to suit it to my attribute by converting it...wait, converting it?

I never noticed since I wasn't able to sense the mana before but, isn't the atmospheric mana different from the mana inside me? It kinda feels like the forest is red and full of red trees. I'm almost out of mana right now and I feel that I'm going to blank out if I use any more of it. Maybe instead of absorbing it directly, I should make it suit my attribute first?

I go back to lying down on the ground, and try to reach a stable and clear state of mind.

"Sirius-sama? What's wrong?!"

As I'm about to reach it, I hear Noel shooting at me. She's probably surprised to see me lying down on my back in the middle of the garden. I try to show the running Noel that I'm alright by waving my hand at her, but she keeps rushing toward me with a worried face.

"Are you alright?! Were there some after effects from yesterday's events after all?!"

"Calm down. I'm only meditating, look, here."

I take the intermediate magic book where I left it off and I show the part about meditation to Noel in order to make her settle down. Thought she starts reading the book with a wondering face, her expression switches to an awkward laugh once she's done reading.

"Hum... Sirius-sama? This is a intermediate class magic. Can you actually... use it?"

"No, I managed to sense the mana but I still can't absorb it. I'm in a stalemate right now."

"No, no! That's still amazing. In the first place, this technique requires years of studying with a qualified teacher before finally being able to use it. Yet you learnt it that fast through self-study."

"But I didn't self-study, you're the one who taught me, remember?"

“Don’t be absurd! I’m only an inexperienced beginner class in magic. And I didn’t even teach you anything, I merely showed you some spells.”

“It’s because you showed me those spells that I was able to reach my current level and teach myself. How about you, Noel? Who taught you magic?”

“I was taught by my former magic teacher when he came to my hometown. I might not look like it right now, but I was the one with the most talent in my village, because of that, everyone there pushed me to go to school.”

“School? There are schools for teaching magic?”

“Yes. But it’s really expensive to study there. Since my village was poor, the school ended up giving up on us. So I only got to learn the basics in magic and left my hometown to become a migrant worker.”

Probably because she’s longing for her home, Noel starts smiling while looking far off into the distance.

“I’m sorry. I was a bit insensitive.”

“Don’t worry please, I was just feeling a little bit nostalgic. Besides, I’m happy now. Aria-sama, Elena, Dee, And you, Sirius-sama. I think It’s great that I was able to meet you all.”

I’m met with a small and sincere smile from this young woman.

All in all, I’m satisfied because I’m really indebted to this girl, and I sincerely want her to be happy.

“However, you’re a hundred years too early to worry about this onee-san. It doesn’t matter how many things you know and how smart you are, in the end you’re still a child.”

That’s certainly true but it’s doesn’t sound persuasive when coming from her because of her usual goofy behavior. The way I see it, she’s more like a younger sister who needs a lot

of care and I want to reward her smile by letting her stay with me during my next experiment.

“I’ll keep that in mind. By the way, Noel, are you free after that?”

“Yes I am. I came here to look for you because I’m done with my work.”

“Then I want you to participate in an experiment, I’ll show you something interesting. We’ll just have to wait a little while for my mana to reco… ver?”

Though I just noticed it because I thought about the amount of mana necessary for the next experiment.

Did my mana recover?

It’s only been a few minutes since I went out of mana and even if I did some meditation a little while ago, in the end, it’s like I did nothing. I usually need several hours to recover, did I actually sleep plenty when I lied down earlier even though if felt like an instant?

“Is something wrong?”

“Ah no… It’s just that my mana already recovered and I’m gathering my thoughts on that.”

“Wow, you recover really fast. It takes me half a day at best to recover.”

I’ll put that aside for the moment because I’m not out of magic anymore which means that I can do my next experiment now.

This time I’ll improve my [(String)] spell. Though it would get pretty useful if I turn it into a regular rope, it just wouldn’t be good enough since it’d be of a pretty low practical use. It might get better if I stack a bunch of them together to make a bundle but, that won’t be necessary since I know a stronger and more secure material anyway.

I picture a material called Kevlar, it’s considered as the strongest thread among the Aramids fibers. It’s used to make ballistic vests, it’s an excellent synthesized material that

can reach a tensile strength of 60kg for a thickness of 1 millimeter. If I bundle many folds of it, I can make one really tough rope.

It would be alright to make it as a chain or a wire as well, but I decide to make it as a rope because it's easier to picture for me and the mana is hard to control with a weak image.

"Listen, I'm going to make the [(String)] spell, can you pull it for me?"

"Isn't it going to snap if I do that?"

"It'll be alright. It's a little special so it won't break easily."

I trigger the [(String)] spell as Noel looks at me with a skeptical face. Though it's invisible, I can feel a thick-rope shaped flow of mana growing from the palm of my hand.

"This will do."

"Ah… huh? You didn't chant?"

I didn't sing the name of the spell's name nor the chant indeed. But I just ignore the shocked Noel an I make her hold the tip of what's coming out of the palm of my hand.

"Forget it, forget it, more importantly, hurry and pull. I got my whole energy back so you don't need to worry about anything."

"But if it snaps… well, it really is different as you said. Then, here I go!"

I begin in to feel some rope-like material touching my hand and I start pulling it with a serious face that is completely different from my previous expression. I pull it with force, too, but the rope of mana doesn't move an inch.

Yes, this is a success. I don't know if it's because it's made of mana but, for some reason, there is no creaking or bending on this rope, and it's far from lacking in strength too, it's perfect. However, there is on thing it fails with.

"Oh!"

“Ah! Sirius-sama!”

I lose in terms of strength and get dragged by Noel.

Though I trained all that time, it can’t be helped since I’m still three years old.

After that, I try hanging the rope on a tree then climbing on it and using it as a substitute for the chains of a swing, as a result, I reach the conclusion that it has a lot of practical uses. By changing its thickness, it could get various usages, it would become an all-purpose magic rather than an all-purpose tool.

I feel like I used a lot of mana, probably because I kept bundling the mana ropes over and over again. Well, I’m not out of mana but let’s not rush things this time, I’ll get back to it later.

“Is it time for lunch yet?”

“Yes, it is. I’m hungry too.”

I hold hands with Noel while going back to the house.

On the way, a certain question is brought up in the middle of our conversation.

“Sirius-sama, what do you want to do in the future?”

“In the future?”

“I’m so proud of you being able to use that kind of amazing magic. And since you’re able to do this kind of things, I’m really interested in what you’ll do when you grow up.”

“That’s right, I wonder what I should do…”

“Ahaha, I’m being a little impatient here. Please forget it.”

Since the time I got this new life three years ago, I thought several times about what I want do to here.

I had a bloody life in the previous world but I was quite satisfied by the way I met my end since I was able to die while carrying out my strategy. I don't have much regrets from before that either, but when I heard the story about the school from Noel, I remembered.

I had five students.

Though I can't recall their names, I took under my wing five boys and girls, I took care of them and educated them. For me, who had neither parents nor a wife, those kids were the closest thing I had to a family. As their teacher and as their foster father, I wasn't able to see their growth completely, that's probably my only regret. This time I want to become strong and to follow my students' growth properly.

Yes, I know what I have to do.

Part 2

After lunch, I talk to all the members in the living room.

“I will go to school.”

The three people start looking at each other and seem confused by my words.

Especially Noel whose face turns pale like she did something awful.

“Is that because of what I said earlier? My words altered the future of Sirius-sama…”

“It’s not because of you. I decided this on my own after thinking it through.”

“Calm down, Noel. So, Sirius-sama, why do you want to go to school?”

“Though it’s not set in stone yet, I want to become a school teacher.”

Death is taken pretty lightly in this world.

There are many countries in war, not unified, and many stories about confused and opposed religions and races. Disputes happen frequently as well, it’s a dangerous world dominated by demons.

However, that’s only the knowledge I got from books.

Therefore, I want to travel through the world, to see and feel various things and teach them afterwards by living as a teacher.

That’s roughly my plan.

To go to school to learn about the world, to go on a trip to get to know and see the world myself, and to become a teacher and share my acquired knowledge… that’s how it should go.

“The man in my dreams taught a lot of things to children. Though I had a hard time being him in that situation, It felt very rewarding and I want to do it as myself. Therefore I should go to school first to gain some knowledge.”

“Well, in that case you’d surely need to go to school yes. But, Sirius-sama, your attribute is…”

The fact that I don’t have any attribute might be a problem.

It’s easy to guess where the problem resides, I’d surely get called incompetent if people were to find out about my lack of attribute and I’d be looked down upon. I start frowning as I think about that, but Noel starts nodding with a serious face.

“I think it’ll be all right.”

“What are you saying Noel? You should be the one who understands the most the pain of being isolated.”

Isolation… she must have gone through a lot of discrimination because of her race. Though she laughs cheerfully now, I wonder if she had some painful experiences in her past.

“Actually, Sirius-sama showed me his magic earlier. Though it was only one spell, he showed me a power that made me feel like I don’t reach his feet. And you can use other spells right?”

Because Noel asks me that in a kinda aggressive way, I just nod for the time being. Though I should be able to use it whenever I feel like it if I repeat the experiment, I keep quiet about the gun magic because they’d likely get scared of it.

“He already understands half of the intermediate magic content as well, I honestly can’t begin to imagine just how much he’ll grow in the next five years. Even if he gets oppressed, he’ll be strong enough to hit back and subjugate whoever attacks him.”

That’s right. Even if I do lose, I’ll just try again and again until I win.

“I said it many times already but, I think that Sirius-sama will surely become successful. Therefore, I want to do what I can do to help him reach that success.”

“… Well, you’re right. We servants are here only to serve the master after all. Also, this is the first time Sirius-sama ever asked for something selfish and I want to give it to him.”

“Indeed! I’ll work hard for that.”

“Me too.”

I feel really thankful toward the three of them for rooting for me. Well then, I’ll just behave like the baby I am by depending on them.

Even though I was reluctant to tell them about me wanting to become a teacher at first, it turned out to be usless worries and my uneasiness was lifted, though I now feel a little embarrassed. I’ll grow up to meet their expectations.

“Thank you everyone. But don’t push yourselves, we still have five years after all.”

“Thank you for your concern. First, the entrance fee. I’ll help by making some compounded medicines for sale.” (Elena)

“I’ll take care of the sales.” (Dee)

“And I’ll look for a school. It’d be a shame for Sirius-sama’s amazing talents to be wasted!”

Though Noel snorts out that reply, she starts looking lonely for a short instant and I hear her whisper [(Although I gave up…)] . Oh I see, Noel is probably overlapping my situation with her past and trying to make it positive. I guess she regrets not being able to go to school.

“It seems that we’ll get pretty busy from now on. Well, first of all, Dee, it’s time to give THAT to Sirius-sama.”

“Got it.”

Dee goes out of the living room, and returns after a few minutes while gripping a sword in his hand. He then hands me the sword, and gives me a look that encourages me to unsheathe it so I draw the blade out of its scabbard.

“What’s this?”

“It’s a sword I got when I was still an adventurer. It won’t break even if your opponent is a goblin so, please accept it.”

It’s a short sword that has a 50 centimeters long blade with a small pattern on it and a pretty rustic handle, it doesn’t have any decoration. Though it’s slightly too big to be used by a three years old child, I like its appearance which is focused only on practicability.

However, the blade of the sword is not in iron. It’s strong and solid but it’s lighter than iron. The sword seems unprofessional but it’s not something you can buy at a local store.

“This weapon seems very good, is it really alright for me to get it?”

“I don’t mind. I’m not an adventurer anymore and since it’s too short for me, I only used this sword as a spare anyway. I found it in the depths of some ruins, I couldn’t use it as a sword but it was very light so I just took it without paying attention to it since it wasn’t a hard lift. Though I showed it the owner of a weapon shop, he couldn’t identify the material of the blade. I kept it as a lucky charm until now but, I think it’s just the right weapon for you, Sirius-sama.”

Wow, this is the first time I saw Dee being this talkative.

And it’s just as he says, It is just good when thinking use as arms for defense purposes by the externals valuing.

No because of curse though sword that doesn’t understand well either, Let’s be welcome and put it.

“Take this please. it’s a belt to hand your sword on.”

“Thank you. I’ll use it with great care.”

“You look so cool Sirius-sama. You’re a fine adventurer now.”

Dee seems pleased from my words as he curves his lips slightly upward. I equip myself with the belt after adjusting its size to mine since I became an adventurer…… like hell I did. It’s impossible for a three years old no matter how you look at it.

“Sirius-sama, I know you have a weapon now but, please don’t do anything unreasonable.”

“Yes, I understand. Yesterday I only fought out of need. However, I intend to fight goblins again when I get stronger.”

“Well, I want you to avoid fighting if possible but, I guess experience is necessary. However, next time, I want you to go with Dee.”

Though Elena is trying to hold back and to conceal her emotions, she’s obviously worried sick. Well, I guess I can do what she asked me to if that’s how it is. But I wonder if sympathy is the only thing motivating me to go with Dee.

Surely, I could kill any goblin by myself in an instant with my gun magic, but I want to fight them myself to regain the abilities I had in my previous life. Last time, I got drenched in my victims’ blood, It’s hard to accept that I went through something that disgraceful just to beat two of the goblins in one go.

If I was still my former self, I would have killed the three of them without spilling any blood and I’d have done it while humming.

Magic is good. However, I don’t want to grow up while relying on my magic, especially not on my gun magic, it’s way too powerful. I should be able to snipe the enemies from a long distance to stay safe which would cancel my need of a strong physical strength, but I’d still be taking the risk of getting chased if I’m found out by the enemy. I want to be prepared for any eventuality.

Therefore, I'll just fight using other magic spells and some Taijutsu. *(TL Note: By other magic spells, he means everything but the gun magic.)*

As of now, everyone in my surroundings knows about my secret so I won't have to be careful about my growth anymore.

I also managed to obtain the strange power called magic, and reached new heights in the magic field.

Well, then, it's about time for the real training to start.

PDF by: traitorAIZEN